

The Words of Eternal Life

Proclamation Life Groups; Week of Sunday, April 19, 2015; Steve Thiel

Jesus performs miraculous signs, the feeding of the five thousand and the authority over creation to walk on water and calm a violent storm, demonstrating that He is the Messiah, the Holy One of God. In response, the Jews grumble and reject His teaching. How can He possibly be the true bread from heaven when He's clearly from earth? In an attempt to humble their arrogant assumption that they know best, Jesus declares God's sovereignty over all things, including salvation, and yet offers eternal life to anyone who believes in Him. Therefore, where else would we go? Jesus alone has the words of life.

I. The Bread from Heaven – Read John 6:41-51 and answer the following questions

- A. How is the Jews response to Jesus consistent with their forefathers (*Exodus 15:22-16:12*)?
- B. How does 1 Cor. 10:1-12 help us understand the seriousness of grumbling against the Lord?
- C. What is Jesus' response to their grumbling (*John 6:43-46*)?
- D. How does Jesus prove that there's no tension between God's sovereignty and man's responsibility (*John 6:47-57*).

II. The Flesh of the Son of Man – Read John 6:52-66 and answer the following questions

- A. How do the Jews interpret Jesus' words and how is this consistent in the book of John?
- B. What do you think Jesus means when He says, "*eat my flesh and drink my blood*"? How does comparing verses 54 and 40 (parallel statements) help us understand these difficult words?
- C. How does the crowd respond to Jesus' continual offer that eternal life is only available in Him?

III. The Words of Eternal Life – Read John 6:67-71 and answer the following questions

- A. How does Peter respond to Jesus' question in verse 67?
- B. How is it helpful to know that Jesus chose the 12, including Judas, described as "*a devil*"?
- C. When difficult times come, where are you prone to run, rather than coming to Jesus?
- D. How does the sovereignty of God bring comfort, contentment, and rest to your life?