



John 6—Signs and Miracles Witnessed

Lesson #19, Presented by Gerald Cumby

Testimonies/Confirmation as to “Who” Jesus Was/Is...

1. John, the Baptist, was a witness to Jesus being the Messiah.

John 5:33-35, “You have sent to John and he has testified to the truth. ³⁴ Not that I accept human testimony; but I mention it that you may be saved. ³⁵ John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to rejoice in his light.”

2. The Works that I am doing should let you know that I am the Messiah:

John 5:36, “I have testimony weightier than that of John. For the works that the Father has given me to finish—the very works that I am doing—testify that the Father has sent me.”

3. The Father Himself testifies as to who I am.

John 5:37-38, “And the Father who sent me has himself testified concerning me. You have never heard his voice nor seen his form, ³⁸ nor does his word dwell in you, for you do not believe the one he sent.”

4. The Scriptures testify about who I am.

John 5:39-44, “You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me to have life.

5. Moses testified about me...He wrote about me, and you have placed your faith in Moses, who himself, died and it was recorded in the Scriptures you studied!

John 5:45-47, “Do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. ⁴⁶ If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me.

6. **YOU...TESTIFY ABOUT JESUS! YOUR “BORN AGAIN” EXPERIENCE, YOUR SALVATION TESTIFIES THAT JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD!**

Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

7. **THE HOLY SPIRIT TESTIFIES TO JESUS BEING THE SON OF GOD.**

John 14:26, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

John 15:26, “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me.”

JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD...THE MESSIAH!

JOHN 6 – THE BREAD FROM HEAVEN

John 6:1-13 – Opposed by the Impossible

John 6:14-21 – Opposed by the Storm

John 6:22-46 – Opposed by Sign Seekers

John 6:47-71 – Opposed by Word Twisters

Get ready for a miracle.

John 6:1-4, “After these things Jesus went over to the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples. Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near.”

- **After these things Jesus went over to the Sea of Galilee:** This was not to “getaway” or shun the people from seeing Him performing the miracle healings.
- **Then a great multitude followed Him:** The crowds followed Him because they were interested in the “miracles” in lieu of the “miracle worker.” It is like the crowds following a football star or a music icon today (their performance is more important than the individual).
- **They saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased:**
: “The multitude ‘kept following’ Jesus because they ‘continually saw’ the signs that He ‘habitually did’ on the sick.” (Morris) The crowd gathered more followers as Jesus made His way to the location he was going.
- **Went up on the mountain:** The sharply rising terrain east of the lake is known today as the Golan Heights.
- **The Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near:** Most of the crowd probably were Galilean Pilgrims who were on their way to Jerusalem (One time each year).

John 6:5-7, “Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, “Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do. Philip answered Him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little.”

- **Hey, Philip...Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?**
 - ✓ Philip was from a town near where they were (Bethsaida). The crowd had been listening to Jesus preach all day. This shows the compassion of Jesus.
- **He said this to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do:**
 - ✓ Jesus knew what miracle He was about to perform, but wanted to use the opportunity to teach His disciples.
 - ✓ Philip had already seen Jesus do many miracles; therefore, Philip should have known that Jesus could do the impossible (divine resources).
- **Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient:**
 - ✓ Problem 1: They didn’t have the resources to buy bread and to feed the multitude (200 denarii was just a little more than a half years wages).

- ✓ Problem 2: Even if they had the money, it would be impossible to purchase enough bread to feed them all (Bethsaida was a small town).

THE TEST: PHILIP SHOULD KNOW BY NOW THAT JESUS CAN DO THE IMPOSSIBLE. JESUS WANTED PHILIP TO UNDERSTAND THAT.

JOHN 6:7-9 “One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to Him, “There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?”

- Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother said to Him, “There is a lad here”:

NOTE: Andrew once again introduced someone to Jesus.
“The word for ‘lad’ is ‘little boy’.” (Morris)
- Five barley loaves:
 - ✓ Barley was always regarded as simple food, more often fit for animals than for people. Barley scarcely would bring one-third of the value of wheat in the east:
 - ✓ This means it is likely that the young boy came from a poor family.
- Two small fish:
 - ✓ I know what small fish are (less than 7”)
 - ✓ These were just enough for a young boy for the day.
- What are they among so many?
 - ✓ There wasn’t much to work with, but God doesn’t need much.
 - ✓ The disciples were already forgetting what Jesus can do.
 - ✓ God doesn’t *need* any help – but He often deliberately request our help to get us qualified to do the impossible.

John 6:10, “Then Jesus said, ‘Have the people sit down.’ Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.”

- Jesus was in no hurry (no panic); calmly and orderly had the people to prepare to eat (they might not know at this time what was going on).
- He had a huge catering job to fulfill. Jesus can do anything!
- The ones who came under Jesus’ request would soon be filled to the full.

John 6:11, “And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted.”

- When He had given thanks:
 - ✓ Jesus only had a few loaves of bread and a few fish, but He was determined to give His Father **thanks** for what He did have.
 - ✓ This should make us blush when we ever doubt the God who made us.
*Psalm 139:13, “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s **womb***
- ✓ Jesus took the loaves... He distributed them to the disciples:
 - ✓ The miracle resided in the hands of Jesus, not in the distribution.

Those hands that often performed miracles...were the ones the soldiers pierced at the cross.

- ✓ The disciples did not do the miracle; they simply distributed the miraculous work of Jesus. We are to do likewise...Use your hands to bless others!
- ✓ **As much as they wanted:**
 - ✓ God's supply was extravagant, as much as any of them **wanted**. All ate until they were completely satisfied.
 - ✓ Jesus took the lads few morsels and turned it into an all-you-can-eat buffet.

John 6:12-13, "So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." Therefore, they gathered *them* up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten."

- **When they were filled.**
 - ✓ This was a remarkable miracle (some think that the disciples should have anticipated that Jesus would do such a thing).
 - ✓ Old Testament passages warn against doubting God's provision.
 - ✓ It was obvious that Jesus used the disciples to Though the disciples did not understand or anticipate the miracle, Jesus invited them to participate in it. They distributed the miraculously multiplied bread and fish. Without their work, no one would have been fed.
 - ✓ Jesus demonstrated to them the giving character of God – the same character God desires to build within us.
- **Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost:**
 - ✓ Jesus was generous, but never wasteful. Jesus wanted to make good use of everything.
 - ✓ Note: The fragments were not the crumbs not eaten by the group, but the broken portions that were left over from the hands of those distributing.
 - ✓ The Bible Scholars all think that the "baskets" were not small...but large ones since there were 12 baskets filled (one basket for each of the 12 disciples).

The reaction to the miracle.

John 6:14, "Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

The way Jesus provided FOOD for a multitude reminded those men of how God worked through Moses to feed Israel with manna in the wilderness.

How about us? Do we doubt the miracle work of God? Do we have to see miracles before we believe? Do we understand that Jesus wants all of us, not just a portion. He provided "ALL THEY WANTED." HE STILL DOES.

Don't ever doubt what God can do if you will only believe!