

16 Gospel of John

INTRODUCTION | Resurrection Life

Here Jesus speaks of eternal life, the last days, and resurrection. Many today would see these as ridiculous and absurd topics but if Jesus's resurrection truly and literally happened, these words must be received and appropriated. Let's look and understand the following points. First, because Jesus came from heaven and was resurrected from death those who have faith in Him receive hope and joy. Second, because Jesus was truly and bodily resurrected, his promise to his disciples of eternal life is not only a future hope of eternal life but a promise here and now for a Spirit empowered life in union with Him. Third, let us consider how it is that we receive this gospel given by Jesus.

SCRIPTURE | John 6:41-59

41 So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." 42 They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" 43 Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. 44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. 45 It is written in the Prophets, And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—46 not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. 47 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. 50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. 51 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

52 The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" 53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. 55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. 56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." 59 Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

QUESTIONS |

1: Jesus calls himself the bread of life and promises to those who believe eternal life and resurrection on the last day. If Jesus was truly and physically resurrected, how do we appropriate what has been promised by Christ (Ref. 1 Corinthians 5:17-19)

2: Many people doubt the resurrection of Christ. How would you answer them? In your life you base judgments on witnesses (testimony), confessions and evidences, can you do the same with Jesus's resurrection? What are the evidences of Jesus's resurrection? Consider the following; Jesus's corpse, grave, eyewitness testimony, the change of life exhibited by his disciples and the beginning of the church.

3: What does Jesus say concerning "eternal life"? In John, the phrase used is "eternal life", in Matthew it is the "kingdom of heaven" and in Mark it is the "kingdom of God". What is to be understood by "eternal life"? Share your thoughts on what is to be understood as "eternal life". (Reference John 17:3)

4: What is the reaction many people would give you concerning a statement on eternal life? Would eternal life be appealing? How should a person describe or give account to the biblical teaching of eternal life?

5: Jesus in recalling the story of the Jews in the wilderness, having been saved out of Egypt compares himself with the bread(manna) they ate in the wilderness. Jesus says "whoever eats my body and drinks my blood received eternal life"(verse 54). What does this mean?

6. In the Lord's supper we spiritually feed on Christ's body and drink his blood. How is communion/the Lord's supper, spiritual nourishment for eternal life?

Reading (Reference) |

1 Corinthians 15:17-19

17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope² in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

John 17:3

3 And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Prayers |

- Lord Jesus, for the redemption of us you were hanged on a cross, died and buried in the ground for three days. You were resurrected on the third day and we praise you Lord for your victory. Lord we pray that we would walk in joy and in the light of that glorious resurrection.
- Lord, we pray for those who doubt the reality of your glorious resurrection. We pray that they would hear, repent and receive the gospel of the resurrected Jesus.

UPCOMING EVENTS | This Week & Next Week

Leaders Meeting 6th

Lunchtime meeting 8th Kasumigaseki 9th Otemachi

Cross Roads Bible Study 12th April Sun

Grace City Gospel Choir 13th **Lunchtime meeting** 15th Kasumigaseki 16th Otemachi

Obento Project 18th **Leaders Training** 20th