

(39) Peak of Popularity Passes in Galilee (Jn. 6:22-71; 7:1)

1. The crowd that ate of the loaves and was filled (C.A.L.F.) hunted down Jesus (Jn. 6:22-25).
 - a. They had chased Jesus from the western side to the eastern side of the Sea of Galilee (Mk. 6:33; Jn. 6:2).
 - b. By nightfall they were committed to making Him their king (Jn. 6:15).
 - c. The next morning they could not explain His absence based on human reasoning (Jn. 6:22).
 - d. A fleet of small boats from Tiberias provided speedy transport back to Capernaum (Jn. 6:23-25).
2. The C.A.L.F. didn't need any more physical food; they needed salvation (Jn. 6:26-29 cf. 2:18-21).
 - a. They were filled. χορτάζω chortazō ^{#5526}_{16x} (from χόρτος ^{#5528} *grass*) to *feed*, to *fill* (Matt. 6:6; 14:20; 15:33,37; Mk. 6:42; 7:27; 8:4,8; Lk. 6:21; 9:17; 16:21; Jn. 6:26; Phil. 4:12; Jas. 2:16; Rev. 19:21).
 - b. The Exodus generation also ate bread to the full (Ex. 16:3,8,12). שָׂבָא saba ^{#7646}_{97x}: to *be satisfied*, *sated*.
 - c. The Wilderness generation was also tested in this regard (Num. 11).
 - d. Jesus ordered the C.A.L.F. to “work” for the right kind of bread (Jn. 6:27) and then defines that “work” as faith alone in Christ alone (Jn. 6:28-29).
3. The C.A.L.F. made a startling admission when they asked for a sign (Jn. 6:30-34).
 - a. They suggest that a sign would be necessary for them to accept the Divine origin of His message and they helpfully offer a recommended sign for Him to perform (Jn. 6:30-31).
 - b. This brazen request comes despite having seen numerous signs on previous days (Jn. 6:2) and that very sign they were requesting the night before (Jn. 6:14,26).
 - c. Their continuous demands for a sign are quite telling (Matt. 12:39).
4. Jesus delivered His great I AM the Bread of Life message (Jn. 6:35-65).
 - a. Jesus delivered the first stage of the Bread of Life message (Jn. 6:35-40). The universal offer of food for eternal life is consistent with a grace through faith salvation offer (Prov. 9:1-6; Isa. 55:1-3a,6-11).
 - b. The C.A.L.F. are at this point unmasked as “Jews” by their grumbling (Jn. 6:41-42).
 - c. Jesus delivered the second stage of the Bread of Life message—speaking of His flesh (Jn. 6:43-51).
 - d. The Jews turn from grumbling to arguing (Jn. 6:52).
 - e. Jesus delivered the third stage of the Bread of Life message—speaking of His flesh and blood (Jn. 6:53-58).
 - f. At this point even His disciples took the grumbling step on the way to anger on the way to abandonment (Jn. 6:59-60).
 - g. Jesus delivered the fourth stage of the Bread of Life message—speaking of His betrayer (Jn. 6:61-65).
 - h. The end result of four stages of the Bread of Life message was that grumbling led to arguments led to abandonment led to attack-mode against Him (Jn. 6:66; 7:1).
5. The Twelve (Jn. 6:67-69) and others (Acts 1:21-23) stayed loyal, but in Judas' case it was only to betray Him (Jn. 6:70-71).