

May 25, 2024

I AM The Bread

As we continue our journey and thus discover of the depth of who Yeshua is and the revelation of I AM, we witness the Jewishness of Yeshua in much greater detail as the one that redeemed them with an outstretched arm, leading them through the wilderness. Our next leg of the journey takes us to a time that is profound, involving one of Yeshua's miracles capture for our understanding in Yochanan's Gospel.

Joh 6:22 The next day, the crowd which had stayed on the other side of the lake noticed that there had been only one boat there, and that Yeshua had not entered the boat with his talmidim, but that the talmidim had been alone when they sailed off.

Joh 6:23 Then other boats, from Tiberias, came ashore near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had made the b'rakhah.

Joh 6:24 Accordingly, when the crowd saw that neither Yeshua nor his talmidim were there, they themselves boarded the boats and made for K'far-Nachum in search of Yeshua.

Joh 6:26 Yeshua answered, "Yes, indeed! I tell you, you're not looking for me because you saw miraculous signs, but because you ate the bread and had all you wanted!

Talking of the miracle that he performed earlier in feeding the 5000 referenced at the beginning of chapter 6. They kept pursuing him because of the miracles, yet Yeshua conveys something different. They aren't really pursuing him because of the miracle but because of the the bread they at and all the abundance of it.

Remember this...

Joh 6:9 "There's a young fellow here who has five loaves of barley bread and two fish. But how far will they go among so many?"

Yeshua had five loaves and two fishes.

Joh 6:10 Yeshua said, "Have the people sit down." There was a lot of grass there, so they sat down. The number of men was about five thousand.

Five thousand men...not counting women nor children. Let that sink in for a moment. Headings in bibles say the feeding of the 5000. Yet that is a vast and gross understatement.

Joh 6:11 Then Yeshua took the loaves of bread, and, after making a b'rakhah, gave to all who were sitting there, and likewise with the fish, as much as they wanted.

Yeshua said a blessing, the B'rakhah, something you are familiar with here in that we give thanks to Adonai for what He has provided. Yeshua was giving us an example and would be consistent in His Action.

Food was distributed to everyone who was there. The number could have been greater than 10,000 including women and children.

Look what happened afterwards...

Joh 6:12 After they had eaten their fill, he told his talmidim, "Gather the leftover pieces, so that nothing gets wasted."

What did they collect, a few scraps?

NO!!!

Joh 6:13 They gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten.

Over 10,000 people were fed with five loaves and two fish and there were 12 baskets remaining. Were the bushel baskets? We don't know how large the baskets are yet there were 12 of them. They ate their fill, in other words they ate as much as they wanted and there were still left overs.

This goes to show the abundance that comes from God. Yeshua didn't let this moment go to waste in that He knew why they were following Him.

The people were fed and ate an abundance. Consider their response...

Joh 6:14 When the people saw the miracle he had performed, they said, "This has to be 'the prophet' who is supposed to come into the world."

I have talked about the "Prophet" a great deal and will not revisit this but now

this was an expectation and an anticipation that had been resonating within Israel for centuries. One authoritarian regime after another. The people were anticipating the promise made to Moshe to come to fruition, yet it didn't. They would wait, generation after generation. That is until all the miracles started to happen, and done by the one who spoke with great authority.

Deu 18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kinsmen. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I order him.

Deu 18:19 Whoever doesn't listen to my words, which he will speak in my name, will have to account for himself to me.

It would be this expectation that would cause the people to follow after Him.

Joh 6:26 Yeshua answered, "Yes, indeed! I tell you, you're not looking for me because you saw miraculous signs, but because you ate the bread and had all you wanted!

The feeding of the many still fresh and resonating amongst the children of Israel, Yeshua uses this moment further...

Joh 6:27 Don't work for the food which passes away but for the food that stays on into eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For this is the one on whom God the Father has put his seal."

Consider this brief dialog exchange...

Joh 6:28 So they said to him, "What should we do in order to perform the works of God?"

What should we do? What works, what Mitzvot, what actions should we be taking?

Joh 6:29 Yeshua answered, "Here's what the work of God is: to trust in the one he sent!"

Trust, faith in the one who He sent. Trust in the Son of God. For Yeshua would share something similar later on and what we have already seen...

Joh 14:9 Yeshua replied to him, "Have I been with you so long without your knowing me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Joh 14:10 Don't you believe that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me? What I am telling you, I am not saying on my own initiative; the Father living in me is doing his own works.

Joh 14:11 Trust me, that I am united with the Father, and the Father united with me. But if you can't, then trust because of the works themselves.

Joh 14:12 Yes, indeed! I tell you that whoever trusts in me will also do the works I do! Indeed, he will do greater ones, because I am going to the Father.

Yet they need to see another miracle in order to trust more.

Joh 6:30 They said to him, "Nu, what miracle will you do for us, so that we may see it and trust you? What work can you perform?"

Here is where Yeshua brings it all together. Taking the moment of the feeding, the anticipation of the people and hence the expectation and desire for more., Yeshua responds...

Joh 6:31 Our fathers ate man in the desert—as it says in the Tanakh, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Joh 6:32 Yeshua said to them, "Yes, indeed! I tell you it wasn't Moshe who gave you the bread from heaven. But my Father is giving you the genuine bread from heaven;

Joh 6:33 for God's bread is the one who comes down out of heaven and gives life to the world."

What bread came down from Heaven?

Recorded in Exodus 16, just after the Exodus when the people were hungry, just as the 10000+ were hungry, God would respond to His servant, not Yeshua but Moshe...

Exo 16:4 Adonai said to Moshe, "Here, I will cause bread to rain down from heaven for you. The people are to go out and gather a day's ration every day. By this I will test whether they will observe my Torah or not.

Exo 16:5 On the sixth day, when they prepare what they have brought in, it will

turn out to be twice as much as they gather on the other days."

Exo 16:6 Moshe and Aharon said to all the people of Isra'el, "This evening, you will realize that it has been Adonai who brought you out of Egypt;

You are to get your ration, that is your portion, your fill. As much as you can partake in a single day, yet don't go beyond that.

The 10,000 got their fill, eating all they could.

The exchange and thus the desire of the people respond...

Joh 6:34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread from now on."

Joh 6:35 Yeshua answered, "I am the bread which is life! Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever trusts in me will never be thirsty.

Joh 6:36 I told you that you have seen but still don't trust.

They have seen the miracle yet they want another one. They see but the still don't trust Yeshua conveys.

What more needs to happen. From verse 37 on is a lengthy exchange that I would encourage you to read on your own.

For here and now, verse 35 is the key verse where Yeshua once again connects himself to Adonai and not just as His Son, but as the one who brought forth bread from Heaven.

Word play is a very powerful tool within the Jewish toolbox for understanding Scripture.

Joh 6:35 Yeshua answered, "I am the bread which is life! Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever trusts in me will never be thirsty.

You cannot mistake the connection established by Yeshua connecting Himself to the bread

I AM the bread which is life. Conveying that the very bread that came down in the desert sustained the life of Israel. Yet the life He is now referring to is Eternal life. They will never hunger again for that which is the bread of Life...for what is that bread...

Matthews account of Yeshua in the wilderness being tempted...

Mat 4:1 Then the Spirit led Yeshua up into the wilderness to be tempted by the Adversary.

Mat 4:2 After Yeshua had fasted forty days and nights, he was hungry.

Mat 4:3 The Tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, order these stones to become bread."

Mat 4:4 But he answered, "The Tanakh says, 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of Adonai' "

And ultimately brings us back to John 1...

Joh 1:14 The Word became a human being and lived with us, and we saw his Sh'khinah, the Sh'khinah of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.

And bringing us back to the Revelation of I AM...

Exo 3:11 Moshe said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and lead the people of Isra'el out of Egypt?"

Exo 3:12 He replied, "I will surely be with you. Your sign that I have sent you will be that when you have led the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

Exo 3:13 Moshe said to God, "Look, when I appear before the people of Isra'el and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you'; and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what am I to tell them?"

Exo 3:14 God said to Moshe, "Ehyeh Asher Ehyeh [*I am/will be what I am/will be*]," and added, "Here is what to say to the people of Isra'el: 'Ehyeh [*I Am or I Will Be*] has sent me to you.' "

Exo 3:15 God said further to Moshe, "Say this to the people of Isra'el: 'Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh (יהוה) [*Adonai*], the God of your fathers, the God of Avraham, the God of Yitz'chak and the God of Ya`akov, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how I am to be remembered generation after generation.

