Weekly Devotional

September 10, 2007

## "I Am The Bread Of Life"

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

I had been in the bed for a while, but I rolled over one more time and finally decided—I'm getting up and eating that roll that was left over from the evening meal. Even as I put my feet on the floor, I was telling myself I didn't need to eat any more bread. But as is often the case when it comes to eating, I didn't listen, and I quietly made my way into the kitchen, poured myself some tea, and enjoyed every bite of that bread.

In the text before us, Jesus said, "I am the bread of life." He doesn't merely satisfy our physical hunger; He satisfies the desires of the inner man. Oh, may we love Him more and fellowship with Him more intimately.

The chapter before us, John 6, contains Christ's discourse on "The Bread of Life." In the teachings set forth, He made several revelations about His eternal nature, His earthly life and ministry, and the purpose of His death, burial and resurrection. Examining Christ's first "I Am" statement in John and the context of the chapter, we are reminded of some of the overwhelming reasons to love and appreciate the Lord Jesus as our Bread.

As the Bread of life, Jesus came down from the heavenly Father! Before His claim, "I am the bread of life," Jesus said, "For the bread of God... cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world" (6:33). Later He added, "For I came down from heaven" (6:38). Again, He declared, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven" (6:51). He is the Bread of God; the Bread of life; the "true bread from heaven" (6:32).

As the Bread of life, Jesus came out of the earthly field! Just as seed must be planted in the field before there is grain and before there is bread, so Jesus was planted and manifested in the earthly field. Again He said, "I came down from heaven, not to do Mine own will, but the will of Him that sent Me" (6:38). He was from heaven, but He was in the world to do the Father's will, to give life to sinners.

As the Bread of life, Jesus came through the deadly fire! To have bread, the grain is reaped, threshed, winnowed, mingled and baked. The Lord Jesus was taken from the field, threshed and winnowed by the religionists, taken to the cross and died in the fire of God's judgment. He was also buried, but He rose again to give us life and to be our life. He is the Bread of life! Hear His words, "He that eateth My flesh, and drinketh My blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him" (6:56).