“If Anyone Eats of This Bread, He Shall Live Forever”

Intro: This morning as we begin our study of the paragraph beginning at verse 41, and we read the very first words which say, “The Jews therefore were grumbling ...”, we find that though the subject matter remains the same, there is a different ______________ involved. This group is more contentious than the previous, as these directly ______________ the Lord contesting what He said.

A. What we have in our text this Lord’s Day is largely a repeat of what we read in the previous paragraph, but since John the Beloved, as moved by the __________ __________, again wrote of these things as relayed to a different audience, we will study them again. Obviously, these truths are of such importance that the Holy Spirit inspired John to reiterate them in a slightly different context. And so, in being _____ to the ______ we will reiterate them. May we gain from these holy verses of Scriptures the truth which __________ ___ to ________.

I. The Jews were ______________ about Jesus.

A. Knowing of His earthly heritage, the Jews __________’ claim to be “the bread that came down out of heaven.”

1. They did not understand His Incarnation, nor did they have an understanding of His immaculate conception and the virgin birth, so __________ ___________ within and amongst themselves that He had no basis upon which to make a claim that He came down from heaven.

II. Jesus answered their unbelief by ______________ them from their spiritual inability ___ _____ Sovereign ____________ who alone grants faith!

A. Many see this true statement, "No one can come to Me, the __________ who sent Me draws him ...” and our teaching of it as arrogant and mean-spirited for they understand it to exclude people from salvation. But nothing could be further from the truth. To the contrary, it is a loving ____________ meant to turn people from their feeble selves to the Almighty God so that they will ___ __________!

1. These words that Jesus spoke saying, "No one can come to Me, unless the Father who sent Me draws him ...” are words of infinite __________ and mercy, and are ______________ to all who hear.
B. And Jesus made this saying that all whom the Father draws to Him, He Himself will raise up on the last day to ____________

C. Jesus mercifully gave a __________ by which people can recognize whether or not they have been taught by the Heavenly Father. Those who hear and learn from the Father will in fact come to Jesus in ____________ Him to be the Christ.

1. __________ mercifully told the Jews to listen to Him because He has __________ the Father and is sent from the Father to __________ the Father to us! (Cf. 1:18, 6:46; Matt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1-3).

III. Jesus made it clear that all who __________ in Him __________ eternal __________.

A. What is it that we must __________? Jesus said, verse 48, "I am the bread of life." We must believe His word, that He is who He says He is, that _____ ____ “the bread of ________ sent from heaven.”

1. Christ __________ _____ the bread of life who has come down out of heaven sent of the Father, who miraculously satisfies the longing soul granting __________ everlasting.

B. __________ foretold of His purpose and how He would grant eternal life: that He would sacrificially give His body for the many; that He would die upon the cross to ____________ the _______________ of men.

Conclusion: Because Jesus gave of Himself by sacrificially laying down His life, all who eat of “this bread” - that is, who partake of Him by coming to Him in faith believing “shall live forever.”

If you believe in Jesus, then ______ ________ to God thanking Him for His saving grace, for He drew you to Christ. If you have not believed, then cry out ___ ________ for mercy, and the God who delights in showing mercy will _______ you __________ in Christ Jesus, and you will be saved!

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