



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel
John 6:1-15
From Sermon 9.24.23

Read *John 6:1-15*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: John chapter 6 opens with another miracle followed by a lengthy teaching or discourse. It's important to go beyond the obvious, in these accounts, and look for the deeper meaning that applies to us. While Jesus is clearly demonstrating His divinity to the crowd, He is also preparing the Apostles for leading the Church and for the rebellions they will face for preaching truth.

1. We commonly title this miracle "The Feeding of the 5,000". But how is that actually inaccurate and failing to give God His fully glory? See *Matthew 14:21*. John only records the number of men that were present that day. If we include the women and children, the number feed skyrockets to 10, 15, even 20,000 people.

2. The feeding of the *5,000 is one of only two miracles recorded in all four Gospels. What is the other? The Resurrection

3. Since this miracle is so clear, so important, and so witnessed (5000 + witnesses), what are the Bible critics forced to do with it? Explain it away—Find rational, scientific, explanations...just as with the resurrection.

4. What is consumer Christianity? How does describe the crowd in this account? A belief that the church exists to serve me/the attendee. Jesus doesn't require anything/much of me—but He owes me blessing, peace, prosperity, health, success. When my current church fails to meet my needs, I'll move on a find another. Music and preaching should be what I want to hear. The church is about programs, not community. The crowd following Jesus were not interested in truth, doctrine, or repentance. Jesus fed them and they want Him to continue to feed them. When He stopped, they all left.

4a. What is compartmentalized Christianity? How does it also describe this crowd? Compartmentalized Christianity = I have my work life, my home life, my fun life and (on Sunday for an hour) I have my church life. No compartment can invade another. Jesus is fine for Sunday, but I have my own plan on other days and times. The crowd here wants Jesus for now. They do not want Him for mission and ministry.

5. There are two historical patterns of unsaved experts & critics. This account and miracle fuel their misconceptions: 1) Jesus could have done so much more if He hadn't so often retreated. See *Luke 5:16*. 2) because Jesus here "fed the masses" many have said Jesus was a socialist and promoted socialism in economics and government. [Funny, those same don't want His standard of holiness, ordained leadership order in the home or church, anything to do with wrath.]

6. What were the three teaching terms covered on Sunday? Christ, Compassion, & Commitment.

7. Here, they wanted to make Jesus their earthly king...by force. Does Jesus need their/our help? No. He will be earthly king and is now eternal King fully by His own purpose and will. See *Revelation 19:16*