

Books of the Book Series

The Gospel of John Outline of Script for TV Production 3ABN Studios March 4-12, 2013

12. *The Bread of Life (John 6:1-71)*

12. Scene A. Structure and Background

1) Structure

Jesus is back in Galilee

Only the two Cana stories and this chapter take place in Galilee

2) Background

This is Passover time

Means Eucharist and cross are in view

Also Exodus imagery

Num 11

Moses and Israelites in the wilderness

Complaint over manna

Moses: how can I feed them?

Ps 107:4-30

Ties hunger in the wilderness to storm on the sea

12. Scene B. Exegesis of 6:1-21

v. 3– Sounds like Sermon on the Mount

v. 11– Eucharistic language

v. 14– cf. Deut 18:15-18

The word is the important thing

But the people see only miracles

Reminiscent of Elisha?

Break bread, levitate, raise dead, cleanse water, sight to blind

16-21– Four points of agreement with the Synoptics

– Disciples see Him walk on sea

– Stormy

– Disciples afraid of Jesus

– “It is I, be not afraid”

Water is the domain of the beasts and chaos

Jesus is in control

Boat = church in the world,
Tossed and feeling deserted, taking things into its own hands

Spiritual Lesson:

He's in control
He can make the best of your mistakes
Conference, Seminary, etc.?

12. Scene C. The Great "I AM"

ego eimi in the Gospel of John

Three types of "I AM" statements

- 1) Self ID-- human level (6:20; 4:26)
- 2) Self ID-- divine level (with predicates)
- 3) Absolute use

Divine Use in OT (2 and 3)

- 1) Reveals Yahweh's nature: eternal existence (Ex 3:14; 6:2,3)
- 2) Reveals His uniqueness (Isa 43:10-11; 46:9-10)
- 3) Expresses future salvation: living water, bread (manna), wine in abundance, fruitful vineyards, Good Shepherd

Predicate Use in John (7 times)

- Bread (6)
- Light (8, 9)
- Door (10)
- Good Shepherd (10)
- Resurrection and life (11)
- Way, truth and life (14)
- Vine (15)

These become expressions of what
Jesus has to offer. Eschatological salvation is present now in
Jesus.

Absolute Use

- 1) [13:19](#) cf. [Isa 46:9-10](#)

Knowledge of the future is evidence of
divine authority.

- 2) [8:24,28](#) cf. [Isa 43:10-11](#)

His "exaltation" is proof of His divine
authority.

Belief essential to salvation

- 3) [8:58](#) cf. Exod 3:14

Pre-existence as divine being

Divinity in First Century Judaism

- Sole Creator
- Sole Ruler
- Worthy of worship

Summary:

Two evidences of Who He Is: prophecy and the cross

Two truths expressed:

- pre-existent divinity
- belief essential to salvation

Spiritual Lessons:

- Jesus is great enough to accomplish all I need
Also near enough to accomplish all I need (bread)

12. Scene D. Exegesis of John 6:22-71

Context is still Passover, therefore expect Eucharistic overtones
= sermon in the synagogue at Capernaum

Background:

Manna: Jesus replaces manna with the true bread

Manna and Passover

Exod 16:1 read on 15th day of 2nd month

Josh 5:10-12

Manna ended on Passover eve, therefore, they expected

Messiah to come on Passover and manna to fall again

6:26– Material level

6:28– Better, but not faith yet

6:29– Work of God = believe in Jesus

6:30– Why ask for a sign when He fed 5000?

They were looking for a cosmic sign

6:32-33– I am the cosmic sign, that proves I am the Messiah!

6:34– They didn't understand, but they wanted what He offered

Jesus' answer: 35-58

A v.33 The One who comes down—> life to world

B v.35 I am the Bread of Life ----

C v.41 “ comes down from heaven

B v.48 “ ----

C v.51 “ comes down from heaven

A v.58 the Bread which comes down —> eternal life to whoever

35-50– bread = revelation

51-59– bread = eucharist

6:60–

Reaction to sermon = “this is hard to take” Why?

Jesus isn't conforming to Messianic expectations

“Shall we settle for this or look elsewhere?”

6:63– Jesus' concerns are clearly spiritual

His word is what really matters

12. Scene E. Bread of Life Theology

- Bodily needs become metaphors for spiritual needs

Bread, water and life are all Johannine symbols

Referring to the reality of eternal life

Makes natural hunger and thirst seem insignificant