

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 04 Dec 2022 ..... John 1:1-18..... In the Beginning
- 2) 11 Dec ..... John 1:19-51..... Come and See
- 3) 18 Dec ..... John 2:1-25..... I Will Raise
- 4) 25 Dec ..... Luke 2:1-52..... Christmas – You Will Find
- 5) 01 Jan 2023 ..... John 3:1-36..... Everyone Who Believes
- 6) 08 Jan ..... John 4:1-54..... But Whoever Drinks
- 7) 15 Jan ..... John 5:1-47..... Pick Up Your Mat
- 8) **22 Jan..... John 6:1-71..... I Am the Bread**
- 9) 29 Jan ..... John 7:1-53..... He Sent Me
- 10) 05 Feb..... John 8:1-59..... I Am the Light
- 11) 12 Feb..... John 9:1-41..... You Have Seen Him
- 12) 19 Feb..... John 10:1-42..... I Know My Own
- 13) 26 Feb..... John 11:1-57..... I Am the Resurrection

**INTRODUCTION**

- Jesus heals and feeds the multitudes (5000+ families), and tells them the next day to quit looking for free food and start working for the food which endures to eternal life

Passage	Comments
John 6:1-15	<p><b>4<sup>th</sup> Sign – Healing and Feeding 5000+ Families</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v2. Before teaching or feeding the 5000+ families, Jesus healed all the sick within the crowd. That could've been over 5000 healings (at least 1 per family) – Why else would 5000 families make the trek on foot to find Jesus in a secluded place unless there was desperation for His touch..... cf <a href="#">Mat 14:13-14</a> - Recall that the crowds were fully aware that Jesus had been healing anyone and everyone of any and all illnesses and handicaps</li> <li>• v7. To Philip, feeding this crowd was impossible</li> <li>• vv8-9. Barley was the cheapest grain available &amp; was often used by extremely poor people to make bread</li> <li>• v11. If Jesus can use the humblest of means to feed a crowd of 1000's, what meager time, talent and treasures can we surrender for Jesus to multiply?</li> <li>• vv14-15. John is the only one to record the episode of the crowd wanting to make Jesus a king and Jesus had to withdraw from them – Because they saw a sign and took it the wrong way             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <a href="#">Matthew 14:22 &amp; Mark 6:45</a> record that Jesus made the disciples get into the boat “immediately” while He sent the crowds away – “bidding them farewell”</li> <li>◆ Contradiction? No, just different perspectives</li> <li>◆ Also from Matthew &amp; Mark’s accounts, we see this:                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jesus showed his compassion to the people further by taking the time to send the people away personally, which involved talking to those who lingered behind for His attention, and possibly healing any others missed earlier</li> <li>2. Jesus headed off to a mountain for some alone time with His Father. He reaches the Apostles in the “fourth watch of the night” between 3:00-6:00 AM. If this was a common practice for Jesus to spend hours praying at night, then it makes sense why we see Jesus sleeping so soundly in the stern of a storm-tossed boat (<a href="#">Mark 4:37-38</a>), and being wearied midday at Jacob’s well (<a href="#">John 4:6</a>)</li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6:16-21	<p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Sign – Walking on Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v20. “I AM” – Jesus conveyed to them He was in sovereign control. <a href="#">Mat 14:28</a> records Peter walking on water until his faith gave out; This sign was strictly for the Apostles, but their “hardened” hearts (<a href="#">Mark 6:52</a>) kept them from fully realizing Jesus as God in the flesh</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
<p><b>What happened in the Interlude?</b></p> <p>Between the time Jesus and His Apostles landed on shore and the interchange we see with the Jews in <a href="#">John 6:22-59</a>, <b>Matthew and Mark</b> recorded that Jesus healed ALL the sick which were brought to Him from around the countryside (<a href="#">Mat 14:35-35</a>; <a href="#">Mark 6:55-56</a>). <b>John</b>, HOWEVER, considered the dialogue between Jesus and the Jews to be more crucial to demonstrate the deity of Christ than mentioning the massive amount of healings Christ performed – BUT WHY???</p> <p><b>Consider This:</b> Healings may have been a sign of God’s work &amp; they may’ve brought temporary relief, but only acceptance and obedience of sound doctrine/teachings bring eternal salvation and true freedom..... <a href="#">1Tim 4:16</a></p>	
6:22-59	<p><b>Confirmation of Jesus’ Deity via Words, not Miracles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv22-24. The people wanted more free food and possibly another chance to make Jesus king</li> <li>• v26. Jesus, knowing their hearts, stated that “<i>you seek Me, not because you saw signs (which revealed His deity), but because you ate free food.</i>”</li> <li>• v27. “<i>Do not work for earthly food, but for spiritual food which endures to eternal life</i>” – IOW, Jesus tried to get the people to focus on spiritual life, not earthly comfort</li> <li>• vv28-29. The people basically asked Jesus how they could work healings and miracles so effortlessly, and Jesus said the ONE work God was interested in was for people to believe/accept/obey His Son</li> <li>• vv30-31. The people were so earthly focused that IF Jesus fed them continuously like Moses did with free food, then they might believe Him</li> <li>• vv32-33. Jesus kept pointing the people heavenward</li> <li>• v34. BUT the people were still earthly focused – “Give us this Free Food”</li> <li>• <b>vv35-40. Doctrine of Election.</b> Jesus made it very clear that salvation begins with God, requires our participation (believing in Christ), and ends with Jesus Christ raising us up on the last day to realize our glory</li> <li>• v42. The Jews were perplexed since they knew Jesus’ family and saw Him grow up as a typical Jew</li> <li>• vv43-51. Jesus responded by explaining that those who come to Him are “<i>taught of God</i>” (<a href="#">Isaiah 54:13</a>) – IOW, God makes Himself known to each individual, and Jesus identified Himself as “Living Bread” to eat</li> <li>• v53. The Living Bread analogy should have invoked thoughts of heavenly Manna to the Jew, but the Jews came at it totally from an earthly perspective</li> <li>• vv54-58. Catholics take this passage to justify their doctrine of Transubstantiation where the Eucharist becomes the actual body and blood of Jesus – BUT Jesus was speaking from a heavenly perspective, as He often did, where to eat His flesh and drink His blood is equivalent to hungering and thirsting for God’s righteousness..... <a href="#">Matthew 5:6</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Hard, Extreme, or Radical Sayings of Jesus:</b></p> <p><b>To be His disciple and make it to Heaven we must...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Matthew 18:8-9.</b> Cut off hand or foot, or pluck out eye if need be</li> <li>• <b>Mark 19:21.</b> Sell everything and give to the poor</li> <li>• <b>Luke 14:26.</b> Hate mother &amp; father, sons &amp; daughters, brothers &amp; sisters, your spouse &amp; yourself</li> <li>• <b>Luke 14:33.</b> Forsake everything</li> <li>• <b>John 6:54.</b> Eat His flesh and drink His blood</li> </ul>	

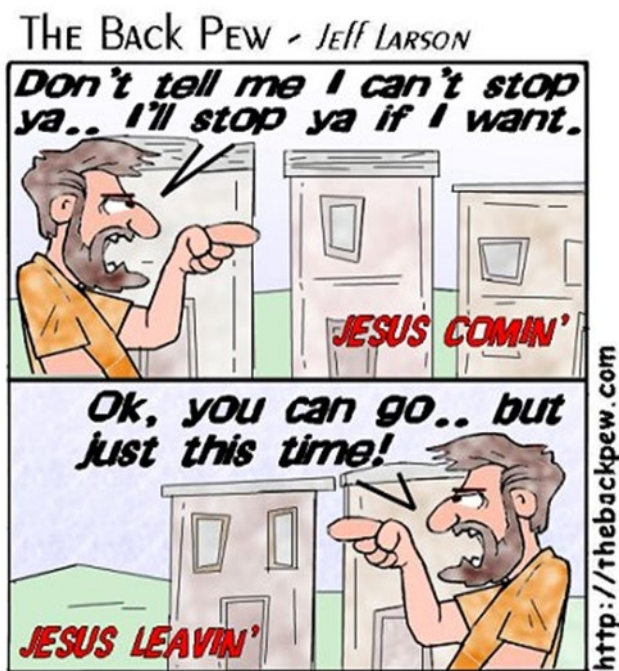
Passage	Comments
6:60-71	<p><b>Time to Make a Decision About Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv60,66. "Many of His disciples" deserted Him because they could not discern the spiritual meanings of His hard sayings</li> <li>• v63. Jesus confirms the intent of His words were to be taken from a spiritual perspective</li> <li>• vv64-65. "There are some of you who do not believe...for this reason no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father" – Coming to Christ involves both willful belief and God's granting - Recall that being born of the Spirit is difficult to grasp just as trying to grasp the wind (<b>John 3:8</b>)</li> <li>• vv68-69. Peter understood enough to say "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life"</li> </ul>
Why Did Jesus Speak in Parables and In-voke Radical Sayings	<p><i>That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them</i> ..... <b>Mark 4:12</b></p> <p>In Other Words (IOW) – Jesus did not force anyone to believe in Him. He gave sufficient evidence for people to make a sound decision to trust Him as Lord and Savior, and enough wiggle room for others to walk away and yet be eternally accountable</p>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- What is more important – receiving a temporary healing from Jesus or receiving some words from Jesus depicting His deity and earthly mission, which compels you to make an eternal decision?

**NEXT WEEK: John 7:1-52.** Jesus plays "Catch me if you can"

- The Jews were out to kill Him (v1);
- His own brothers taunted him (v3);
- The crowd accused Him of having a demon (v20);
- The Pharisees sought to seize him (v32); and
- The soldiers failed to lay hands on Him because "never has a man spoken the way this man speaks"



...and Jesus bid them farewell as He withdrew Himself from them. **John 6:14-15; Matthew 14:22; & Mark 6: 46**

**What Are the Odds Of Dying?**

by Rick Thompson

<http://journal.einsure.com/archive/2004/10/20/184.aspx>

The whole insurance business is a numbers game, based on the odds of something happening... or not happening.

The average life expectancy for U.S. adults is currently 77.2 years. It's 74.4 for males and 79.8 for females. It also varies by race and other factors. In 1900, the average life expectancy was 47.3 years. Imagine having a mid-life crisis at 23.5!

Let's take a quick look at how well you know your odds, and more importantly, at what you can do right now to improve them.

**Knowing Your Odds**

- Q. Let's start with an easy one, but one most of us would rather not answer: What are the odds that you're going to die?
- A. 1 in 1. 100%. You know, that whole death and taxes thing... it is inevitable.
- Q. How does this compare to winning the lottery?
- A. Your chances of winning big in the lottery are somewhere between 1 in 7 million and 1 in 80 million, depending on the game and number of players. Translation: you are slightly more likely to win the lottery than you are to live forever. But only slightly.
- Q. What are the odds that you will die by accident or injury?
- A. 1 in 23. That means that you are much more likely to die of natural causes.

Listed below are the odds of just a few of the many possible ways someone can die:

Cause	Odds
Heart Disease	1 in 2.6
Cancer	1 in 4
Suicide	1 in 121
Homicide	1 in 182
Car Accident	1 in 247
Death by Fire/Smoke	1 in 1,116
Accidental Drowning	1 in 1,126
Motorcycle Accident	1 in 1,204
Airplane Accident	1 in 4,023
Drowning in Bathtub	1 in 11,469
Lightning Strike	1 in 83,930
Bee Sting	1 in 85,882
Bus Accident	1 in 99,809
Train Accident	1 in 142,036
Dog Bite	1 in 147,717
Snake Bite	1 in 527,561

**Moral of the Story** – We are all going to die someday, unless the Lord comes back during our lifetime. So, are we prepared for that day? Better yet, are we prepared for the day after?

**For Your Physical Health** – Eat more fiber and drink more water

**For Your Spiritual Health** – Eat spiritual bread and drink spiritual water (IOW, hunger and thirst for God's righteousness found in knowing, accepting, believing, and obeying Jesus)