

Christian Apologetics (04)
[I Am The Bread of Life]

The word apologetics is derived from the Greek word, apologia. Apologia refers to a speech made in defense or a verbal response.

“Christian apologetics is a field of Christian theology that presents a rational basis for the Christian faith and defends the faith against objections, and exposes the perceived flaws of other world views.” (Wikipedia)

All of the lessons in the series entitled, Christian apologetics, will be taken from the Gospel of John.

Today will study the seventh outrageous **I AM** claim made by Jesus in the Gospel of John:

The Son of Man
The Messiah
The Bread of Life

In today’s lesson, Jesus claimed He was **the Bread of God out of heaven** to give eternal life to everyone in the world who believes (John 6:33-35, 41, 51, 58).

The large crowd with whom Jesus dialogued in the synagogue of Capernaum had attended the miraculous feeding of the 5000 (6:2-4, 16-17, 22-25, 59). This is important to this story.

During this synagogue lesson, a dialogue ensued between this crowd and Jesus in which He claimed He was the **Bread of Eternal Life** (6:33-35, 41, 48-52, 58).

**We will examine this dialogue by the following seven questions with Jesus’ apologetic answers.
This will be followed by a six point doctrine on the Bread of Life.**

NOTE: Pay attention to the special phrase, “Truly, truly, I say to you.” It will require concentration to get four big doctrinal points.

Question #1	(Jn.6:25)	When did you get here?
• Answer	(Jn.6:26-27)	Truly, truly I say to you [Food of eternal life].
Question #2	(Jn.6:28)	What work?
• Answer	(Jn.6:29)	Believe
Questions #3 and #4	(Jn.6:30-31)	What miracle sign to believe? What will you do?
• Answer	(Jn.6:32-33)	Truly, truly, I say to you - God’s grace bread.
Crowd’s statement	(Jn.6:34)	Give us this bread (physical).
• Answer	(Jn.6:35-40)	I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE (spiritual).
Questions #5 and #6	(Jn.6:41-42)	Grumbling (NV of HV) Isn’t he a son of Joseph and Mary? How can he come down from heaven?
• Answer	(Jn.6:43-51)	Truly, truly, I say to you I Am the Bread of Life of the world.

Question #7	(Jn.6:52)	Arguing (NV of HV) He wants to give us His flesh to eat.
• Answer	(Jn 6:53-58)	Truly, truly, I say to you - Eat the Bread from heaven and live forever.

BREAD OF ETERNAL LIFE

1. We will examine the four doctrinal points of Jesus' Truly, Truly apologetics answers.

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| 1st | (Jn.6:26-27) | Jesus Christ is the Manna bread (Ps.78:24-32) and Miracle bread and Messianic bread and Memorable bread (Ex.12:8/ Passover, 17/ Unleavened). |
| 2nd | (Jn.6:32-33) | Jesus Christ is the Bread of God that brings eternal life to the world. |
| 3rd | (6:47-51) | Every member of the human race must personally believe that Jesus Christ is the true Bread from heaven to get eternal life. |
| 4th | (Jn.6:53-58) | Unless we eat the flesh Bread of Jesus Christ, we will not receive eternal life. This is not transubstantiation (1 Cor.15:24-25). |

2. You can see how Jesus ministered to positive volition in order to bring individuals in this crowd to a saving faith in the Bread of Eternal Life, by meeting objections through apologetics skills.

Jesus was working through false thinking in order to bring them to the truth regarding eternal life. It was working until questions 5 and 6 (Jn.6:36, 41-42, 55, 66).

3. It is God desire that all mankind believe and that NO ONE perish (Jn.1:29; 6:29-32; 1 Tim.2:4-6; 2 Pet.3:9; Titus 2:11; 1 Jn.2:2).

4. Salvation is the work of God because He provided the perfect Plan and Sacrifice to remove Adam's Original Sin curse upon all of mankind.

This makes it possible for all members of the human race to be saved on the basis of grace (Jn.6:39, 44; Eph.2:8-9; Gal.2:16; Rom.1:16; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Jn.12:32).

5. Whatever a person does apart from believing the gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation could nullify grace salvation (Gal.2:16-21; Acts 15:1, 11).

(Jn.6:66) "As a result of this many of His disciples (in the crowd) withdrew (apoerchomai / a.a.ind / eis ta opiso) [to the thing behind] [OMCD] (Eph.4:22), and were not walking with Him anymore."

6. At the end of this dialogue,

(Jn.6:41-43) the crowd grumbled [to murmur] (gogguzo / impf.a.ind / onomatopoea) and argued themselves to the point of Negative Volition and rejection of the Bread of Life from heaven for salvation

The Twelve thought that His apologetics approach was wrong – "This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?" (Jn.6:60) (Jn.6:36, 41-43, 52)