

Problem:

Jesus is the bread of Life - but no one is hungry

Calvinism is a bad word

and we don't particularly like theology

does your view of grace bear the weight of salvation?

George Whitefield said, "We are all born Arminians." It is grace that turns us into Calvinists.
(Charles Spurgeon, Sermons, Vol. 2, p. 124).

Text:**Total Depravity - No appetite**

John 6:22 ¶ On the next day **the crowd** that remained **on the other side** of the sea **saw** that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone.

John 6:23 Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks.

John 6:24 So when **the crowd saw** that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

John 6:25 ¶ When **they found him on the other side** of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

John 6:26 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves.**

John 6:27 Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal."

John 6:28 Then they said to him, "**What must we do, to be doing the works of God?**"

John 6:29 Jesus answered them, "**This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.**"

John 6:30 So they said to him, "**Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?**"

John 6:31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

John 6:32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.

John 6:33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

John 6:34 They said to him, "**Sir, give us this bread always.**"

John 6:35a ¶ Jesus said to them, "**I am** the bread of life;

(35a) John 1:11 -He came to his own and his own people did not receive him (1:11) -

the work of God is to believe in Jesus and His testimony - (Jn 1:18, 1:1-4, 14)-the Word made flesh (eat my flesh)

give us this bread always - they were hungry but not for Jesus -eph 2:1-3

Unconditional Election - Except For God

John 6:35b **whoever** comes to me shall not hunger, and **whoever** believes in me shall never thirst.

John 6:36 But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.

John 6:37 **All that the Father gives me will come to me,** and **whoever** comes to me I will never cast out.

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

John 6:39 And this is the will of him who sent me, that **I should lose nothing** of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.

John 6:40 For this is the will of my Father, that **everyone who looks on the Son and believes** in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

John 6:41 ¶ **So the Jews grumbled** about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven."

John 6:42 They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'"

John 6:43 Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves.

John 6:44 **No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.** And I will raise him up on the last day.

John 6:45 It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' **Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me—**

John 6:46 not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father.

John 1:12-13 -But to all who did receive Him, He gave the right to become children of God...born of God

all that the Father give me - unless the father draws -Mark 13:20; rom 9:11-13, 16; 10:20; 1 cor 1:27-29; eph 1:4-5; 2 tim 1:9; rev 13:8; 17:8

Limited Atonement/Particular Redemption - Who sent His Son

John 6:47 Truly, truly, I say to you, **whoever believes** has eternal life.

John 6:48 **I am the bread of life.**

John 6:49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died.

John 6:50 This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that **one** may eat of it and not die.

John 6:51 **I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone** eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of **the world** is my flesh."

John 3:16 - whoever believes from the whole world

John 6:51 - anyone who eats--believes from the whole world

these particular peopleHe gave Himself for - John 10:15; acts 20:28; rev 5:9

Irresistible Grace - And His Spirit

John 6:52 ¶ **The Jews then disputed** among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

John 6:53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

John 6:54 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

John 6:55 For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

John 6:56 Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

John 6:57 As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.

John 6:58 This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

John 6:59 Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

John 6:60 ¶ When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"

John 6:61 But Jesus, **knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?"**

John 6:62 Then **what if you were to see** the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?

John 6:63 **It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.**

John 6:64 But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)

John 6:65 And he said, "**This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.**"

Unless one is born again He cannot see 3:3, 7-8 - He brings us to salvation and accomplishes His aim

(not about Eucharist - 6:35, 40, 47, 51 -about the words one must receive (63)(jn 1:1-4)the Word made flesh for us (jn 1:14))

synagogue - The purpose of this is to establish that Israel were given adequate opportunity to respond to Jesus yet chose to decline

they satisfied themselves on bread that perishes and died

Who is hungry - 2 cor 4:1-6; acts 13:48; 16:14; rom 8:30

(unless God gives us a new nature and overcomes the rebellion of our sinful desire we will never be saved - the reason His grace is said to be irresistible

and effective in accomplishing our salvation is because He has delivered us from the power of our nature - (Jn 1:5; Eph 2:4-5; 5:8; Col 1:12-13)

Perseverance of the Saints - So We would Remain

John 6:66 ¶ After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him.

John 6:67 So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?"

John 6:68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life,**

John 6:69 and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

John 6:70 Jesus answered them, "**Did I not choose you, the Twelve?** And yet one of you is a devil."

John 6:71 He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him.

*(37-39) I will never cast out - preservation of the saints - John 10:28-29 - I should lose nothing - It was His job and is His job to bring you to glory -
Judas lack of perseverance is evidence of God's lack of preservation*

Main Idea:

Jesus is the Bread of Life for whoever is hungry

Implication:

Calvinism is the gospel

do not be ashamed : Romans 1:16-17

It is no novelty, then, that I am preaching; no new doctrine. I love to proclaim these strong old doctrines that are called by nickname Calvinism, but which are truly and verily the revealed truth of God as it is in Christ Jesus. By this truth I make my pilgrimage into the past, and as I go, I see father after father, confessor after confessor, martyr after martyr, standing up to shake hands with me . . . Taking these things to be the standard of my faith, I see the land of the ancients peopled with my brethren; I behold multitudes who confess the same as I do, and acknowledge that this is the religion of God's own church. (Spurgeon's Sovereign Grace Sermons, Still Waters Revival Books, p. 170).

it is the power of God for all who believe: Romans 1:16-17

... and I will go as far as Martin Luther, in that strong assertion of his, where he says, 'If any man doth ascribe of salvation, even the very least, to the free will of man, he knoweth nothing of grace, and he hath not learnt Jesus Christ aright.' It may seem a harsh sentiment; but he who in his soul believes that man does of his own free will turn to God, cannot have been taught of God, for that is one of the first principles taught us when God begins with us, that we have neither will nor power, but that He gives both; that he is 'Alpha and Omega' in the salvation of men. (C.H. Spurgeon from the sermon "Free Will A Slave", 1855).

in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith: Romans 1:16-17

When I was coming to Christ, I thought I was doing it all myself, and though I sought the Lord earnestly, I had no idea the Lord was seeking me. I do not think the young convert is at first aware of this. I can recall the very day and hour when first I received those truths in my own soul - when they were as John Bunyan says, burnt into my heart as with a hot iron; and I can recollect how I felt that I had grown all of a sudden from a babe into a man - that I had made progress in scriptural knowledge, through having found, once for all, the clue to the truth of God ... I saw that God was at the bottom of it all, and that He was the Author of my faith, and so the whole doctrine of grace opened up to me, and from that doctrine I have not departed to this day, and I desire to make this my constant confession, I ascribe my change wholly to God. (Charles Spurgeon, Autobiography: 1, The Early Years, Banner of Truth, pp. 164-165).

Application:

this is the gospel we must respond to
It is the gospel we must proclaim
It is the gospel we must live -the righteous shall live by faith -Romans 1:16-17

I have my own opinion that there is no such thing as preaching Christ and Him crucified, unless we preach what nowadays is called Calvinism. It is a nickname to call it Calvinism; Calvinism is the gospel, and nothing else. I do not believe we can preach the gospel if we do not preach justification by faith without works; nor unless we preach the sovereignty of God in His dispensation of grace; nor unless we exalt the electing unchangeable eternal, immutable, conquering love of Jehovah; nor do I think we can preach the gospel unless we base it upon the special and particular redemption of His elect and chosen people which Christ wrought out upon the cross. (Charles Spurgeon, The New Park Street Pulpit, Vol. 1, 1856).

Here are some article for further study and discussion:

To understand the hatred of Calvinism:

<http://teampyro.blogspot.com/2010/07/filthy-calvinists-and-people-who-love.html>

Here is a defense of Calvinism from Spurgeon:

<http://www.spurgeon.org/calvinis.htm>

does Calvinism kill missions:

<http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevindeyoung/2013/07/03/does-calvinism-kill-missions/>

Is Total Depravity Biblical?

<http://www.gotquestions.org/total-depravity.html>

Is Unconditional Election Biblical?

<http://www.gotquestions.org/unconditional-election.html>

Is Limited Atonement Biblical?

<http://www.gotquestions.org/limited-atonement.html>

Is Irresistible Grace Biblical?

<http://www.gotquestions.org/irresistible-grace.html>

Is Perseverance of the Saints Biblical?

<http://www.gotquestions.org/perseverance-saints.html>