

John 6:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven,
and giveth life unto the world.

Analysis

Jesus defines God's bread as 'he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.' This transitions from bread as commodity to bread as person—Christ Himself. The phrase 'giveth life unto the world' expands beyond Israel to universal scope. True bread doesn't merely sustain physical existence but imparts spiritual and eternal life.

Historical Context

The shift from 'it' (bread) to 'he' (person) is subtle in their conversation but profound theologically. Jesus will shortly declare 'I am the bread of life,' making explicit what He here implies.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does understanding Christ as the bread of life change our approach to spiritual nourishment?

2. What does it mean that Christ 'giveth life unto the world' beyond merely sustaining existing life?

Interlinear Text

τῷ	γὰρ	ἄρτος	τῷ	θεοῦ	ἐστίν	τῷ	καταβαίνων	ἐκ
which	For	the bread	which	of God	is he	which	cometh down	from
G3588	G1063	G740	G3588	G2316	G2076	G3588	G2597	G1537

τῷ	οὐρανοῦ	καὶ	ζωὴν	δίδους	τῷ	κόσμῳ
which	heaven	and	life	giveth	which	unto the world
G3588	G3772	G2532	G2222	G1325	G3588	G2889

Additional Cross-References

John 17:8 (Parallel theme): For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

John 8:42 (References God): Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

John 6:48 (Parallel theme): I am that bread of life.

John 3:13 (Parallel theme): And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.

John 6:50 (Parallel theme): This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

John 6:38 (Parallel theme): For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 16:28 (Parallel theme): I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.