

True Bread of Heaven, John 6:30-33; Ps 22:9: Weaning; Mother- & God-Dependence; vv. 10-11: Sustaining Ministry of the Spirit, Isa 11:1-1; Heb 9:13-14; John 3:34

John 6:30 - Therefore they [unbelievers among the 5,000 who were miraculously fed the loaves of bread the day before] said to Him, “What sign will You perform then, that we may see and believe You?
What work will You do?”

v. 31 - “Our fathers ate manna in the *Jornada*; as it is written [Psalm 78:24], ‘He [Moses] gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

v. 32 - Then Jesus said unto them. “I am telling you the truth, I say unto you, it is not Moses who gave you that bread from heaven [**grace logistics**], but My Father keeps on giving you the true bread from heaven [**grace salvation through faith in Jesus Christ**].

v. 33 - “For the bread from God is that which comes down [*katabainō*] out from heaven, and gives eternal life to the world.”

The besmirchers who gathered on Golgotha were ordering their Messiah to come down from the cross where if He had done so would have robbed them and the world of the opportunity to eat the bread of life.

The derision of the Lord continues in:

Matthew 27:43 - “He trusts in God; let God deliver Him now for He has said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”

This comment by the Jewish religious leadership indicates how pitiful they were as theologians. Their very statements are the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy in Psalm 22:6-8. The mission of Christ was not to be delivered *down from* the cross but to suffer *up upon* it for the sins of the world, including those who despised Him.

- 15) Psalm 22:9–11 compares the early childhoods of David and Messiah:

Psalm 22:9 - But You, God, are He Who took me [**David**] out from the womb [מֵבֶטֶן *mebeten*: selection at physical birth]. You caused me to have confidence upon my mother’s breast.”

The weaning process in Jewish society was designed to build confidence in the child’s soul by age three. Details are provided by:

Orr, James (gen. ed.). *The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia*. (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1956), 4:3076:

WEAN, גָּמַל *gamal* [“to complete; to ripen”]. As applied to a child, *gamal* covers the whole period of nursing and care until the weaning is complete (1 Kings 11:20). This period in ancient Israel extended to about 3 years, and when it was finished the child was mature enough to be intrusted to strangers (1 Samuel 1:24). The weaned child, no longer fretting for the breast and satisfied with its mother’s affection, is used in Psalm 131:2 as a figure of Israel’s contentment with God’s care [faith-rest].

It was the practice of the Jews to instill confidence in the child's soul in the first three years of life. This confidence was developed on principles of faith-rest which means that true confidence finds its source in the grace, faithfulness, and lovingkindness of divine provision.

David's birth is now compared with that of Messiah's in:

Psalm 22:10 - I [**Messiah**] was caused to be dependent upon You [**God the Father**] out from the womb [מִן־בֶּטֶן *merechem*: selection at physical birth].

The Messiah is prophesied to be filled with the Holy Spirit at physical birth and in His true humanity to be dependent upon the Spirit from there through His work on the cross and subsequent physical death:

Isaiah 11:1 - And there shall come forth a shoot [**First Advent: the true humanity of Christ**] out from the stump [**Messianic bloodline**] of Jesse [**Father of David**]. And a Branch [a Messianic title] shall grow out of his roots [**the Davidic line**] and bear fruit [**salvation**].

v. 2 - And the Spirit of God [**the Holy Spirit**] shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom [**application of doctrine**], and understanding [**perception of doctrine**], the spirit of counsel [**the prototype Divine Dynasphere**], and virtue [**personal love for God and unconditional love for mankind**], the spirit of knowledge [**insight and discernment**] and respect directed toward God [**the Father**].

- 16) The principle that Messiah would have to bear our sins absent fellowship with the Father makes Him totally dependent on the sustaining ministry of the Holy Spirit:

Psalm 22:11 - Be not far from me, for trouble is near; for there is none to help.

Isaiah 11:1-2 reveals that the Holy Spirit indwelt the Lord at His physical birth and Psalm 22:11 compared with Hebrews 9:14 indicates that the Spirit's sustaining ministry continued while He was being judged for our sins on the cross.