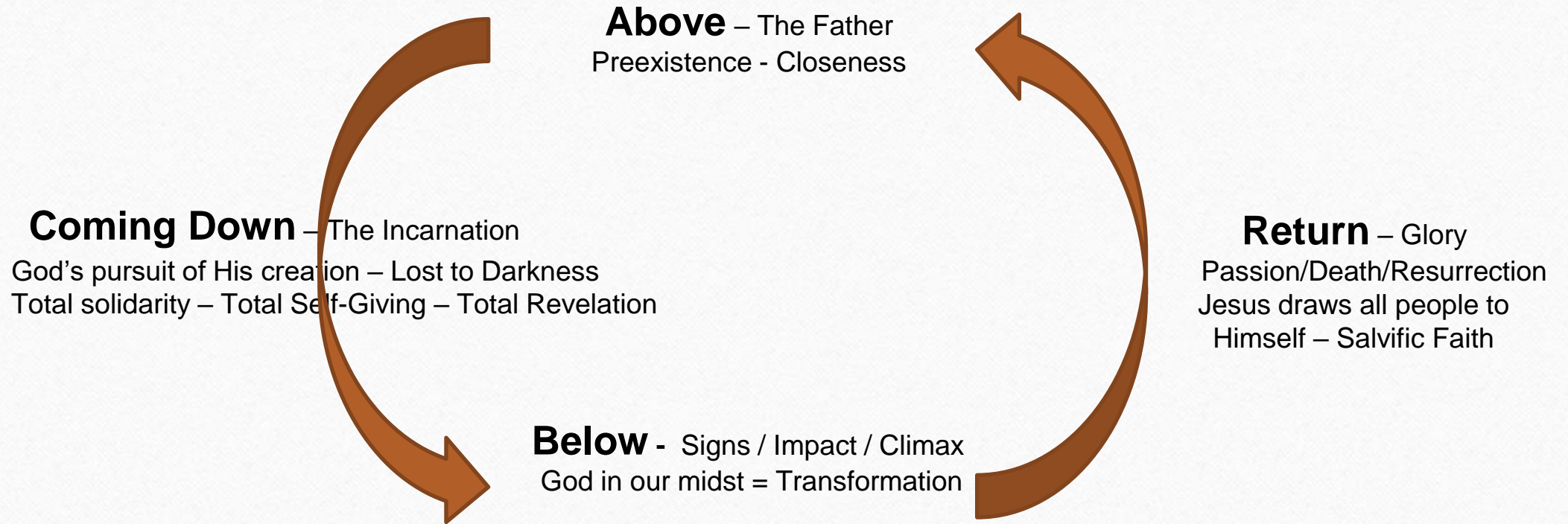


Gospel of John

Week Three – Stirring Up Trouble

Recap – The Structure



Signs

- ✓ Wedding at Cana - Water into Wine – Beginning of everything
- ✓ Healing of the official's son
- Healing of the man lame 38 years – *on the Sabbath*
- Feeding of the 5000 'multitude'
- Jesus walks on water
 - Healing of the man born blind
 - Raising of Lazarus

Healing of the Man Lame 38 Years on The Sabbath (ch.5)

The controversy begins!

The Place...

- Return to Jerusalem
- Pool of Bethesda represents the pool of Baptism, but incomplete
 - Only healing one person at a time; Only healing occasionally
 - Baptism heals within, the whole person
 - Baptism is for anyone – all who come to Christ in faith, not just physically
 - Sacraments/efficacy – Comes through natural materials

Lame 38 Years

The Sign... Paralysis – Symbol of a paralyzed nation

- “Do you want to be healed?”
 - The man was already longing for healing
 - Jesus requires a response – “Take up your mat...”
- “Do not sin...” – Sin is worse than physical paralysis
 - Jesus requires a conversion
 - Relationship with Jesus must be enduring

Lame 38 Years

The Sign...

- 38 years
 - Symbol of the many years God's people were wandering the wilderness because of their sins
 - Jesus' healing was superior
 - God does not forget us
- Fulfillment of Isaiah (35:5-6) – “Then the lame shall leap like a deer”

Healing on *The Sabbath*

The Timing...

- Feast of Tabernacles (Feast of light and water – lasted for 8 days which includes a Sabbath day)
- Healing occurs on the 7th day, Sabbath
 - Genesis – God's sovereignty over creation
 - Jesus transforms believers into a new creation
 - Jesus shows his dominion, power from The Father

Causing Trouble

Controversy, persecution begins - ***What causes all of the trouble?***

- What is the meaning of Sabbath? – They didn't understand the meaning
 - For God to manifest Himself in our lives
 - God still 'works' in giving life, judging the dead
- Jesus claims divinity
 - In the Discourse, directed at The Jews
 - In working on the Sabbath - The Father has Given Jesus Authority

Small Group

- Why do you think Jesus asked the man who had been ill for 38 years if *he wanted to be healed*?
- According to the law of Sinai covenant, no work was to be done on the Sabbath. Was Jesus rejecting the Old covenant Sabbath? If not, why does he seem to be violating the Law?
- What is the true meaning of Sabbath for you?

Feeding of the Multitude

Back to Galilee – Near the time of Passover

- Preface to the teaching on the Eucharist
- Location: On the mountain – indicates great significance
 - Mt. Moriah
 - Mt. Carmel
 - Mt. of Beatitudes
 - Mt. of Olives
 - Mt. of Transfiguration

Feeding of the Multitude

- Phillip is addressed *intentionally* –
“We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.” (Jn 1:45)
--He **should have had confidence** that Jesus would have done something—
- Similar questions posed to Moses
 - Num 11:13; 22- Moses asks God – ‘Where am I to get meat to give to all this people?’
 - “Are there enough flocks and herds to slaughter for them? Are there enough fish in the sea to catch for them?”

A Little to A LOT

- Andrew finds ***five barley loaves and two fish***
 - 2 Kings 4:42-44 – Elisha feeds more than a hundred with 20 barley loaves -
- 5,000 men
 - indicates abundance
 - ‘5’ symbolizes grace = Super abundance of grace
 - ““Make the people sit down.” – aka – “Get ready...”
- Like the Last Supper – Jesus gives thanks and distributes to ‘those who were seated’

A Little to A LOT

- He provided more than was needed
 - The *greater* sign is the gift of Jesus Himself to humanity and the world.
 - All of their needs will be answered in a more complete way
- ‘Gather the fragments’ – both similar and dissimilar to the manna
 - A new Exodus/ New Moses/ New Manna
 - Manna was gathered only for the day, the leftovers here were *saved*
 - Leftovers gathered into 12 baskets = Completeness

Greater than the earlier signs

Reaction

- The crowd's reaction – (Deut 18:15-20)
 - Recognize the connection to the Old Testament/prophecies
 - To make him a king, political leader
 - Recognized he was messiah, but Jesus evades their desires
 - Jesus will only be the kind of Messiah that The Father wants

Bread of Life Discourse

They needed to be taught the meaning of the signs- to slow down

- What has just happened? Everything is now directed to Jesus

Jesus points out immediately that people were just looking for bread (bios) and missing the sign (zoe)....

“Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.”

earthly food (and manna) is perishable, doesn't safeguard you for eternity
– the Food Jesus provides “endures for eternal life” -

Bread of Life Discourse

Belief in Christ is the 'work' to receive this Bread

“I am the bread of life” – Jn 6:35, etc.

- Solemn proclamation of the identity of Jesus
- In the present tense – continually giving life, for all people, for all time (coming down for ever more)
- Unlike the manna, never perishable, never stops giving life
- Zoe vs Bios / Above and Below
- The *greater* sign is the gift of Jesus Himself to humanity and the world.

Bread of Life Discourse

“and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh”

- Future tense – pointing to the cross and the institution of the Eucharist
- Spotless victim offered for sin, like the OT Sacrifice
 - HAD to be eaten(usually by the priest, by all during Passover)
 - The blood was poured out on the altar (Lev. 6:17-19) *NOT consumed* (Gen 9:4)

Like the old, but not like the old – all of the old promises fulfilled in Jesus-

People believed he was demanding cannibalism, ***He should be cut off***

BUT...The old ritual is to be cut off, a new ritual established in perpetuity

Bread of Life Discourse

Many of His disciples could not accept this teaching, Jesus let them go rather than change His teaching

It was not symbolic, but literal

- Food/Drink = Learning God's Wisdom wasn't new... so this was different
- Jn 6:67-68
 - So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life.
 - There can only be one body of Christ, it is our duty to safeguard it
 - Even when things are very bad, remember Peter's commitment

Bread of Life Discourse

Fulfilling/calling back to the Old Testament

- Is 55:2-3 – Listen to God, Listen to Christ and come to Him and you shall live
- Dan 7:13 – The Son of Man would receive from God the Kingdom for eternal rule
- Prov 9:5 – Invitation from Wisdom, bread and wine
- Is 49:10; 48:21 – No hunger in the time of salvation
- Ex 17:3, Num 14:26-35 – Israel's rebellious grumbling

Jesus directly quotes Is 54:13

- “It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ (Jn 6:45)

Jesus Walks on Water

- Private sign for the disciples
- Disciples were afraid *because it was a revelation*
- Jesus reveals Himself “It is I, do not be afraid”
 - “Do not be afraid” is often spoken to people during theophany, God reveals Himself to His people
 - Job 9:8 – The Lord walks upon the sea – God has power over nature
 - “It is I” = “I am”

Located between the Feeding of the Multitude and the Discourse

Small Group

- If Jesus knew what he was going to do, why did he ask Philip where they could buy food?
- Why do you think Jesus told the people that He thought they were more interested in *bread* than in *signs*? (Jn 6:26) What does this tell you about Jesus' mission and His desire for the people?
- Which claims do you think are hardest for the crowd to accept? Are there claims that are hard for you to accept or understand?