

Title: Stupid Idea Or God? - John 6 41-59

Read:

⁴¹⁻⁴²At this, because he said, "I am the Bread that came down from heaven," the Jews started arguing over him: "Isn't this the son of Joseph? Don't we know his father? Don't we know his mother? How can he now say, 'I came down out of heaven' and expect anyone to believe him?" ⁴³⁻⁴⁶Jesus said, "Don't bicker among yourselves over me. You're not in charge here. The Father who sent me is in charge. He draws people to me—that's the only way you'll ever come. Only then do I do my work, putting people together, setting them on their feet, ready for the End. This is what the prophets meant when they wrote, 'And then they will all be personally taught by God.' Anyone who has spent any time at all listening to the Father, really listening and therefore learning, comes to me to be taught personally—to see it with his own eyes, hear it with his own ears, from me, since I have it firsthand from the Father. No one has seen the Father except the One who has his Being alongside the Father—and you can see me. ⁴⁷⁻⁵¹"I'm telling you the most solemn and sober truth now: Whoever believes in me has real life, eternal life. I am the Bread of Life. Your ancestors ate the manna bread in the desert and died. But now here is Bread that truly comes down out of heaven. Anyone eating this Bread will not die, ever. I am the Bread—living Bread!—who came down out of heaven. Anyone who eats this Bread will live—and forever! The Bread that I present to the world so that it can eat and live is myself, this flesh-and-blood self." ⁵²At this, the Jews started fighting among themselves: "How can this man serve up his flesh for a meal?" ⁵³⁻⁵⁸But Jesus didn't give an inch. "Only insofar as you eat and drink flesh and blood, the flesh and blood of the Son of Man, do you have life within you. The one who brings a hearty appetite to this eating and drinking has eternal life and will be fit and ready for the Final Day. My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. By eating my flesh and drinking my blood you enter into me and I into you. In the same way that the fully alive Father sent me here and I live because of him, so the one who makes a meal of me lives because of me. This is the Bread from heaven. Your ancestors ate bread and later died. Whoever eats this Bread will live always." ⁵⁹He said these things while teaching in the meeting place in Capernaum.

Think:

The Son of God arrives on this planet and is ready to tell everyone that he is the one way to Heaven. What do the people around him do and say? "Hey, don't we know this guy? Isn't he Jo the carpenter's boy?" They missed Jesus message because they could not see beyond their own preconceived ideas, beyond their own prejudice. How about you, do you miss opportunities that God has line up for you, because you can not see beyond your own preconceived ideas? Maybe you think that God wouldn't ask you to do something because you are too young? **Wrong!** Maybe you think God wouldn't ask you to do something for him in your school, because that would just be too embarrassing. **Wrong!** Maybe you think God wouldn't ask you to speak because you don't see yourself as a good speaker. **Wrong!** Whatever your preconceived ideas are of what God would ask you to do, you are probably just plain wrong. God asked a bloke with a speech impediment, to speak for his people, in Egypt. God asked a young virgin, who wasn't married, to deliver his son into the world. God asked a killer of many Christians, to spread the word about Jesus and to start many churches. What we have to remember, is our God, is so big, that we really do not have a clue how his mind works. So next time the Holy Spirit prompts you, and you think that God is speaking to you, Pause. Take the time to look at what God is saying, because it may seem crazy to us, but then we are not God.

Pray:

Lord, please blow away my preconceived ideas of what you would have me do for you. Give me the wisdom and the faith, to understand what is and what is not, you have call into my life. Amen.

Action:

Whenever you do, get an idea that God is talking to you, check in with someone you trust and ask them to pray with you about it. If that has happened recently, then phone them today. Bye for now.