

Animals, Humans, and Glorified Humans

John 6:22-59

We continue our series from the Gospel of John entitled "We Have Seen His Glory!" (John 1:14).

They were in search of another free meal... (John 6:25-34)

- You didn't see *signs*, you only *ate*. (John 6:26)
 - Signs: not mysterious signs to decipher, but obvious questions about this miraculous man and God.
- Going beyond food, Jesus turns the conversation to Himself. (John 6:27)
- They maneuver Jesus back to the possibility of free food! (John 6:30-31, 34)

Animals and Humans: What's the difference between them and us?

- Contemporary answers worthy of consideration: reasoning, language
- The Biblical answer is the *Imago Dei*: humans are made in the image of God (Gen 1:27)
- Unbelief: reduces humans to clever animals ruled by their stomachs

Glorified Humans: Jesus announces the culmination of his ministry (John 6:39-40, 44, 54, 58)

- About the resurrection of the body: "It is raised in glory" (The apostle Paul in 1 Cor 15:43)

What about the disastrous results of this Bread of Life sermon? (John 6:52, 66)

- *Time-release teaching.* What sounded like cannibalism ("eat my flesh") would one day make sense: "This is my body, given for you." (Luke 22:19)

Conclusion: The key to being human—and one day a glorified human

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

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. Read John 6:22-71.
2. They sought Jesus, but why? Jesus saw their hearts. (John 6:26) Why do people seek Jesus today? Why do you?
3. "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger..." (John 6:35) In what ways is this statement true?
4. This sermon stirred up opposition (6:41, 52, 60), and many left Jesus (6:66) after it.
 - a. Why? Are there any answers given in the passage itself?
 - b. And why did Simon Peter and the twelve disciples stay with Jesus?