

A DEVOTIONAL SERIES ON THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

THEY GRUMBLED

John 6:41-42 “At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I came down from heaven?’”

A number of instances are recorded in the Bible where God’s people grumbled because they were unhappy. Often their grumbling, their unhappiness, their complaints, their whining, grouching and groaning were because their life was not going the way they wanted. During the Exodus from Egypt to the promised land any number of times Israel “grumbled” because they feared for their lives, did not like the food God fed them or because they were thirsty.

Israel’s grumbling caused God to lengthen the time of the Exodus. Even then they did not learn. The fact is their grumbling demonstrated how shallow their faith was. Their faith was so weak they failed to see God’s hand faithfully leading them through the wilderness to the promised land. Likewise, in John 6, Jesus, the very Son of God stood before the people and they failed to see Him for who He was.

Grumbling is one of the countless sins Satan attempts to lead you to commit. The Devil tries to blind you so you do not see God leading you to Jesus as your Good Shepherd let alone Lord and Savior. He focuses your thoughts and desires upon the things of this world to distract you from the blessings God provides you daily not only for your earthly needs but especially for your soul.

The next time you find yourself grumbling, complaining, grouching and groaning God grant that you are led to realize Satan has successfully distracted you from seeing God’s faithfulness to you. He has promised to provide you with all that you need to support your life. Jesus died and rose again for your salvation. Though Satan, through adversity, tries to separate you from your faith in your heavenly Father, Jesus says to you, “I am the bread of life, whoever believes in me has eternal life, the bread I give you will enable you to live forever.” (John 6:47,50)

Jesus says to you, "Do not grumble. . . I will raise you up on the last day!" (John 6:44)

Prayer: Lord, forgive my grumbling and bless me with faith to patiently look to You for all I need for body and soul. In Jesus' name. Amen.

O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.

Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command, My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good, For You must give success.

Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;
Guard me lest Idle speech May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace Lestd I offend the weak.

Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.

Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;
And let my body have A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace.

And on that final day When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.
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