Exodus 25:23-30 Do You Want to Live Forever? July 24, 2011 Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Introduction

A. Do You Want to Live Forever?

Genesis 5:28–29

²⁸ When **Lamech** had lived **182** years, he fathered a son ²⁹ and called his name Noah, saying, "Out of the ground that the Lord has cursed this one shall bring us **relief** from our work and from the **painful toil** of our hands."

Ecclesiastes 1:13–14

¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. *It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with*. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, **all is vanity** and a **striving after wind**.

B. Real, Full Life!

John 10:10b

...I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. (Cf. Psalm 16:11)

II. Understanding the Pictures

- A. Furniture in God's Tent
 - a. The Gold Ark
 - b. The Gold Table (plates, pitchers & bowls; *Bread of Presence*)
- B. Bread from *Heaven*
 - a. Picture of Heaven on the Mountain

Exodus 24:4a, 9-11

⁴ And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord. He rose early in the morning and built an **altar** *at the foot of the* **mountain**... ⁹ Then *Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up*, ¹⁰ and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of **sapphire** (lapis lazuli/lazurite) stone, *like the very heaven* for clearness. ¹¹ And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and <u>ate and drank</u>.

b. Manna

Psalm 78:23–24

²³ Yet he commanded the skies above and opened the *doors of heaven*, ²⁴ and he *rained down on them manna to eat* and gave them the **grain of heaven**.

C. God's Table Always has Fresh Bread

Leviticus 24:5–9

⁵ "You shall take fine flour and bake **twelve loaves** from it; two tenths of an ephah shall be in each loaf.⁶ And you shall set them in two piles, six in a pile, on the table of pure gold before the Lord.⁷ And you shall put pure frankincense on each pile, that it may go with the bread as a memorial portion as a food offering to the Lord.⁸ *Every Sabbath day Aaron shall arrange it before the Lord regularly*; it is from the people of Israel as a covenant forever.⁹ And it shall be for **Aaron and his sons**, and **they shall eat it** in a holy place, since it is for him a most holy portion out of the Lord's food offerings, a perpetual due."

III. This Picture Was Pointing at Jesus

Key Idea

The satisfaction and nourishment we get when we eat bread finds its true significance when we submit to and rely upon Jesus; finding true satisfaction and eternal life.

A. The Prophet (Deut. 18:15, 18)

John 6:13-14

¹³ So they gathered them up and filled *twelve baskets* with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴ When the people saw *the sign* that he had done, they said, "This is indeed <u>the</u> **Prophet** who is to come into the world!"

B. Bread from Heaven

1. Working for food that *endures*

John 6:25-29

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, <u>not</u> because you *saw signs*, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ <u>Do not</u> <u>labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life</u>, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do, to be doing the <u>works</u> of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

2. The *true* bread from heaven

John 6:30-31

³⁰ So they said to him, "Then <u>what sign do you do</u>, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? ³¹ **Our fathers ate the manna** in the wilderness; as it is written, '*He gave them bread from heaven to eat*.'"

John 6:32-37

³² Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the **bread from heaven**, but my Father gives you the <u>true</u> bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." ³⁵ Jesus said to them, "<u>I am the bread of</u> <u>life;</u> whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe.

"One of the reasons God created bread—or created the grain and the water and yeast and fire and human intelligence to make it, and I mean the really good kind, that's not mainly air—is so that when Jesus Christ came into the world, he would be able to use the enjoyment of bread and the nourishment of bread as an illustration of what it means to believe on him and be satisfied with him. I believe that with all my heart. Bread exists to help us know what it is like to be satisfied in Jesus.

This is true for water (**John 4:14**) and light (**John 14:6**) and every other good thing that God has made. Nothing exists for itself. "All things were created through him and *for him*" (**Colossians 1:16**). Every honorable pleasure that we have in the created world is designed by God to give us a faint taste of heaven and make us hunger for Christ. Every partial satisfaction in this life points to the perfect satisfaction in Jesus who made the world." *

Psalm 16:11

¹¹ You make known to me the path of *life*; *in your* <u>presence</u> there is *fullness of joy*; at <u>your right hand</u> are **pleasures forevermore**.

Key Idea

The satisfaction and nourishment we get when we eat bread finds its true significance when we submit to and rely upon Jesus; finding true satisfaction and eternal life.

^{*} **John Piper** "The All-Providing King Who Would Not Be King". November 01, 2009. Scripture: John 6:1-15. Topic: The Person of Christ. Series: The Gospel of John 4