

"Jesus was a human being, a Jew in Galilee with a name and a family, a person who was in a way just like everyone else. Yet, in another way, he was something different than anyone who had ever lived on earth before."

The Jesus I Never Knew: *Philip Yancey:*

Blessings Or Benefits? John 6:-71



In The Feeding Of The 5000 Jesus "Tests" Philip

- He isn't testing your ABILITY, but your AVAILABILITY!
- He isn't testing your COMPETENCE, but your COMMITMENT!
- He isn't testing your STRENGTH, but your DEPENDENCE!

"Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant..." 2Cor 3:5-6



When Jesus Walked On Water He Confused And Frightened The Disciples

- Obedience doesn't guarantee easy sailing!
- Obedience doesn't require your agreement or understanding.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9



"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."

Isaiah 43:1-2



When Jesus Taught The Crowd and Pharisees, He Challenged Their Motives

- You aren't here to bless God, you came for the free bread!
- Vs 66 Many disciples "departed" and followed him no more!

"Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him..." Job 13:15



Jesus INTENTIONALLY Offended The Crowd and Pharisees To Show Who Really Believed

- Offend: Lit = to scandalize; to cause to stumble or displease
- Vs 64 Some of you don't believe...and I know it!
- Asked disciples: "What about you...are you leaving too?"

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." John 6:68

This is NOT Your Sunday School Jesus!

Jesus asks YOU:

- Why are YOU here? To bless God...or get the benefits?
- Will you follow me when I challenge you, confuse you, stretch you and offend you?
- Are you staying...or are you leaving too?

