

WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH JESUS?

John 6:60-71

Introduction:

1. Some “Disciples” Abandon Jesus

A) Because of His doctrine (John 6:60)

> His doctrine or teaching was, “a hard saying” (John 6:66b)

APPLICATION: When you hear people say, “Doctrine divides but love unifies” it would serve you well to consider the manner of Jesus.

I have never heard anyone say that Jesus was unloving – He is the epitome of love

> His doctrine / teaching led many to abandon Him (John 6:66)

Truth: These people were excited about Jesus and following Him at the beginning

Truth: The test of their commitment proved the character of their hearts

We see this in another episode in Jesus’ life (John 8:28-31)

We see this in a parable taught by Jesus (Luke 8:11-13)

Truth: John not only records this aspect of Jesus’ ministry, he believed it (1 John 2:3-6)

B) Jesus’ Response to these “Disciples” (John 6:61a)

> His questions – Does this offend you? (John 6:61b)

What is the antecedent for “this?”

What will happen if you see the Son of Man ascend to where He was before? (John 6:62)

> His clarification – The Spirit, not the flesh, gives life (John 6:63)

As Jesus taught Nicodemus in John 3, new birth, being born again by the Spirit marks out the true disciples of Jesus Christ

It is not an act of the flesh (John 1:12-13)

> His conclusion – Some of you don’t believe (John 6:64)

We see that Jesus had supernatural ability to see / know the hearts of men, not just the outward appearance – an indication that He was God

> His confidence – No one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him / her by my Father (John 6:65)

Unless God draws them to Himself, they will reject Him (John 6:37, 44)

2. Some Disciples Follow Jesus

A) Peter's Response to Jesus' Teaching

> Lord, to whom shall we go? (John 6:68a)

> You have the words of eternal life (John 6:68b)

We believe your doctrine / teaching is TRUE

QUESTION: Do they understand everything about what Jesus said yet?

Absolutely not! In fact when Jesus is betrayed and crucified they think it is a tragic mistake and flee for their safety.

Until they see the resurrected Lord and He explains again why He had to die

> Although not fully shaped, notice Peter's confession

We have come to believe and know that you are the Christ the Son of the Living God (John 6:69)

They may stumble, but they will not fall or abandon Jesus finally

Except Judas, whose heart / commitment weren't fully revealed yet (John 6:70-71)

APPLICATION

Believing in Jesus Christ is not necessarily a distinguishing mark of a true disciple of Jesus Christ

Many people believed in Jesus in John 6, but they finally abandoned Him (John 6:66; James 2:19)

A distinguishing mark of a true disciple of Jesus Christ is faith in Him (Ephesians 2:8-9; James 2:20)

His teaching about who He is and why He came (John 14:6; Romans 10:9)

Another distinguishing mark of a true disciple of Jesus Christ is following Him

Not necessarily perfectly but certainly continuously (1 John 2:3-6)

Another distinguishing mark of a true disciple of Jesus Christ is persevering in faith until the end (Hebrews 3:12-14)