

John #32

6:15-29  
(Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52)

08.12.07

**"This is the Work of God, That You Believe ..." or  
"Human Desires and That Which God Requires"**

Intro: In opening to the sixth chapter of John's gospel, we read of the Lord's in popularity for verses 14 & 15 say that because the people believed Jesus to be the Prophet, that they were intending to take Him by force to make Him king! Yet, to our wonder, by the end of the chapter we read of His sudden fall in popularity for verse 66 says that "many of His disciples withdrew, and were not walking with Him anymore." As the text reveals, there is a reason for the rise and fall in our Lord's popularity, and it has to do with earthly \_\_\_\_\_ as they stand opposed to what \_\_\_\_\_.

A. This is not the right reason to follow after Christ: so you can get your earthly desires met. But, we must follow after Christ for this one reason alone: because \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, the Son of the Living God, God the Son, God very God Himself! This is the truth that must \_\_\_\_\_ us to follow Jesus!

I. Perceiving that the people were intending to take Him by force to \_\_\_\_\_ Him \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus went away to the mountain by Himself.

A. One can \_\_\_\_\_ force Jesus to be their \_\_\_\_\_ king, but they must receive Him for who He is, the Son of God, the \_\_\_\_\_ King.

1. What a vast difference between desiring to make Jesus one's king for their \_\_\_\_\_ earthly \_\_\_\_\_, and receiving Him as King according to \_\_\_\_\_ Heavenly \_\_\_\_\_!

II. As \_\_\_\_\_ by Jesus, the disciples began to cross the Sea by boat on \_\_\_\_\_ to Capernaum.

A. The Disciples were caught in \_\_\_\_\_ and they were battered by the waves, driven off course by the contrary winds, and were in the middle of the sea.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ and rowing until exhaustion, they were to reach the shore for the wind was against them!

B. \_\_\_\_\_ walked on the water to \_\_\_\_\_ the disciples in their \_\_\_\_\_. When they saw Him they were frightened thinking He was a ghost.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ the terrified disciples by saying, "It is I; do not be afraid."

C. Upon hearing His voice, they were willing to \_\_\_\_\_ into the boat!

1. The Scripture says, "\_\_\_\_\_ the boat was at the \_\_\_\_\_ to which they were going." As Matthew and Mark record, when Jesus got in the boat the wind ceased and the disciples "were greatly astonished" and "worshipped Him, saying, 'You are certainly \_\_\_\_\_!'"

III. The people who had been fed the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and who intended to take Jesus by force and make Him their king \_\_\_\_\_ to Capernaum, and there they found Him.

A. When the people asked the Lord about how He got to Capernaum, He ignored their question and \_\_\_\_\_ their ill \_\_\_\_\_, revealing that they didn't even so much as follow Him because of the signs, but because they wanted more food.

1. Jesus instructed them to \_\_\_\_\_ their thoughts and energies from the temporal food they desired to received from Him, \_\_\_\_ their great need for the \_\_\_\_\_ food which He gives and which endures unto eternal life.

B. The people wondered what work \_\_\_\_\_ could work to get the food they \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Jesus instructed them saying, "This is the work of God, that you \_\_\_\_\_ in Him whom He has sent." As A.W. Pink puts it, "This is the work of God" means this is what \_\_\_\_\_!" And what does God require? "... that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

2. And what is the work of God? \_\_\_\_\_! Belief that Jesus is sent of the Father to be the Savior of the world! John 1:12-13, "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, 13 who were \_\_\_\_\_ not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but \_\_\_\_\_."

Conclusion: Many are the desires of fallen man, but if you would have eternal life, this is what God requires: that you \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of \_\_\_\_\_, whom the Father sent. "Confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in Your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, and you will be saved!"

And so, dear ones, we must now carefully examine our own hearts, to see if we are of the faith. For \_\_\_\_\_ reason have we come to follow Jesus? What \_\_\_\_\_ lay at the foundation of our confession? Do we seek Him for selfish gain, for love of self rather than love of the person of Christ? Do we seek Him to save us from a fiery hell, but not for His good pleasure? Do we follow Him that He might serve us, or that we might serve Him as Lord and Savior simply because \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_?

This is what God requires, that by the faith He grants we believe in Him whom He sent, that Jesus is the Christ! Therefore, do not waste your life laboring for that which is temporal and passing. But, \_\_\_\_\_ in the One who grants life everlasting, for "the Father has sent the \_\_\_\_\_ to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world" (1 John 4:14).