

John #38

6:60-66

09.23.07

“It is the Spirit Who Gives Life”

Intro: The 6th chapter of John has taken us from crowds that followed _____ for the wrong reason, simply desiring another free lunch, to men of religion who rejected His teaching refusing to believe He was sent _____, until our text this Lord's Day reports that many of His own disciples _____ Him, going their own way.

I. _____ of Jesus self-proclaimed disciples were _____ at His teaching.

A. They said of Jesus _____, "This is a statement; who can listen to it?"

1. F.F. Bruce writes, "This was not simply because they thought the metaphor outrageous but because the whole tenor of argument implied a _____ to be greater than Moses - to be, in fact, uniquely associated with God. His language was hard to take not merely because it was difficult to grasp but because they found it _____."

B. Knowing they _____ at His teaching, Jesus asked, "Does this cause you to _____?"

1. That they might ponder the blinding stubbornness of their _____ Jesus also asked "What then if you should behold the Son of Man ascending where He was before?" As it has been, Jesus was showing them their lostness; their _____ to believe; the irrationality of their own scandalous unbelief.

C. In expressing the only way their unbelief could be overcome Jesus said, "It is the _____ who _____ ..." If their unbelief was going to be conquered, it would be by a divine work of the Spirit. Thus, He pointed them to their great _____ to look to _____ alone for that which only He can give.

1. God the Holy Spirit must give men life for the _____ profits _____. Beloved, as it has been all the way through this exchange in Capernaum, Christ was pointing men away from self-reliance, and away from trust in human knowledge, and away from human effort to _____!

D. Christ Jesus spoke _____ and life! In telling them this, He was saying that they must hear His word as spiritual words and that in believing His word they would have

_____.

1. Jesus identified that _____ did not receive His words of spirit and life because they _____ not believe. Though they followed, they did _____ believe. Though they called themselves disciples, they did not _____. So, they grumbled and stumbled at His teaching being unable to hear His words of spirit and life.

a. _____ knew who did not believe from the beginning, and even who would betray Him. He is the _____ and Omniscient One of God!

2. Because Jesus knew some of His disciples did not believe, He kept _____ to them by telling them that they were lost and by pointing them to the Sovereign _____ who alone saves.

E. From that time forward, as a result of the Lord's teaching many of His _____ (those disciples who were not of Him) _____, and were not walking with Him anymore.

Closing: The Apostle Paul exhorted us saying, "_____ yourselves to see if you are in the _____; examine yourselves! Or do you not recognize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you-- unless indeed you fail the test?" (2 Cor 13:5)

We might ask ourselves, _____ do I follow him? Do I seek Him for what earthly treasure I might gain, or because He is the Son of God? _____ believe the Word of God in its entirety, even that which is difficult to understand? Am I compelled to follow Him no matter the cost? Will I leave all to Him? Is Christ in me?

If we see that we fail the test, then we must forsake our way and cry out to God for He alone saves. And we know this: "if we will _____ our sins, He is faithful and righteous to _____ us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 Jo. 1:9)

We have before the Word of God, these are words of spirit and life. What will it take for you to believe? Prov 3:5-6, "_____ in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And _____ make your paths straight."