

John 6:60-71

60 When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"

60 Even the disciples had a hard time with Jesus' expression. Perhaps when they had the Last Supper it began to make sense. Instead of the lamb as the final food, it was the bread of which He said, "This is my body which is broken for you." 1 Corinthians 11:24

61 But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? 62 Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before?"

61,62 Jesus knew His disciples were murmuring in their hearts. They may have been excited about the crowds, and hearing Jesus difficult saying thought it was a mistake as the crowds departed. Why didn't He explain what He meant? Did He intend to offend them? Jesus already said they were there for the wrong reasons. They wanted the physical. If they had been seeking the spiritual, they may have understood the metaphor of His body being bread and His blood drink (The Word made flesh and the Spirit that gives life to the Word). It was a chance for the disciples see Jesus wasn't raising an army. He was giving His life for the world. If not raising an army offended them, how offended will they be when He ascends and leaves them behind? That isn't what they are expecting.

63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.

63 People rattle on all day with words that have no lasting meaning or purpose. The words from Jesus' lips are spirit and life! How we should value them, memorize them, meditate on them, but never murmur about them. Instead, we should want our words to be anointed by the Holy Spirit. If we speak spirit and life rather than our own ideas, they will drive some away but they will also draw some to Jesus, the source of the words, the living water, the bread from heaven. If God has made them hunger and thirst for righteousness, they will eat up your words.

64 But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.)

64 Some (plural) of the disciples did not yet believe He is one with God. They must have been converted by the resurrection, except for Judas of course. Sometimes we go through a tough season and begin to doubt like they did. We don't understand what God has allowed like they didn't understand His words. It is then that we have to walk by the light of what we already know to be true and trust in the nature of God.

65 And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

65 Only those the Father draws can come to Jesus. If you are not drawn yet, you will murmur and doubt. Once you are drawn and come to know Jesus as Lord, every Word He spoke is precious truth and priceless.

6:66 Sometimes we look for offense so that we won't have to follow the hard and narrow way. If we look hard enough, we will find a reason, invalid as it may be. Man is quick to justify sin like Adam and Eve did in the Garden.

67 So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?"

67 What a sad question! The state of the human heart must have been discouraging to Jesus. After all the disciples had seen, they were murmuring because they didn't understand what Jesus was saying. Jesus could have explained His words like He did with other parables but this was a time for them to learn to trust Him by faith when they don't understand. We need to learn the same.

68 Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, 69 and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

68,69 Peter gives the right response. We may not understand, but where are you going to go? Who else has the Words of life? Who else came down from heaven to reveal truth to us? Who else would love us enough to die to save us? They were convinced He is God incarnate, so they couldn't leave. I hope we all have the same conviction.

70 Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the Twelve? And yet one of you is a devil." 71 He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him.

70,71 Jesus was warning that one of them would leave. One of them held on to his doubts. Judas would even betray Jesus because Jesus did not fit his expectations. Jesus refused to be an earthly king. He was not going to lead an army against Rome. He came to establish a spiritual kingdom that would be world-wide, more lasting than the kingdoms of this world.