

III. The Controversy Regarding Jesus Christ. (5:1 - 12:50)

B. At Passover Time in Galilee (6:1-71)

c. Discourse with the “Jews.” (6:41-59)

- 1) See “Jews” (v. 41 & 52)
- 2) The location had changed to a synagogue in Capernaum (v.59)
- 3) This group was smaller than the multitude from the previous section, although these “Jews” might have been among the “multitude.”
- 4) The rift between Jesus and this group seemed to be more accented.
- 5) The “Jews” primary concern was twofold.

a First, Christ’s origin. They could not make sense of “coming down from heaven.” (v.41)

Son of Man
Dan. 7:13

They knew his parents, brothers and sister. This heavenly origin did not compute in their minds. (v.42)

Seeing the hardness of their hearts, Jesus now tells them, that unless the Father draws them no one can come to him. (v.44) Jesus implied that their inquiry was the result of ignorance. The prophets wrote about Him (v.45). If they had read the Scriptures they would KNOW the Father, and then they would come to Him.

There is Power
in the Scripture

b) **The second aspect** of their concern was the “eating of his flesh and drinking of his blood.”

“EAT”
Ezekiel 2:8-3:3
Jer. 15:16
Rev. 10:9

Seeing the hardness of their heart, Jesus just expanded in its literal expression, without explaining the METAPHOR to these “JEWS.” His approach is similar to the approach Jesus used with the parables. “Seeing, they see not, hearing, they hear not.” (Mat. 13:13) He allowed the mystery to remain unsolved to them.

Catholicism has totally misinterpreted this passage and built a blasphemous system of “transubstantiation” in which the claim is that the wafer literally turns into the body of Christ and the wine literally turns into the blood of Christ. And in the end, then the blood sacrifice of the Lord is repeated each time the MASS is performed.

Transubstantiation

c) Jesus, Himself, gives the clue to the proper interpretation of this Metaphor in verse 63 when the focus is on the “disciples”.
“it is the Spirit that gives life, the flesh profits nothing.”

All the “In Christ”
verses. Ro. 8:1,etc

c) The eating of His flesh and drinking of His blood is a symbolic representation of the believer’s **SPIRITUAL UNION** with Christ at the time of salvation. Other passages that describes this aspect are John 14:20, 23 among many others.

d. Discourse with the disciples. (6:60-71)

1) The third group are the “disciples.” (Followers of Christ) (v. 60, 66, 67)

2) A large number “murmured,” indicating a progressive alienation with the Lord’s preaching. (v. 60-61)

3) Instead of serious inquiry as to the meaning to the statement, they covenanted with one another to abandon their “Lord,” revealing the true nature of their shallow faith Jesus.

Preaching the
TRUTH will melt
some hearts, and
harden others.

It will reveal the
condition of the
heart.

4) The unbelief of this group had been evident to Jesus from the beginning, and His **difficult utterances** had been spoken with the avowed purpose of revealing their true position (v.65 - 66). It seems that Jesus gives these “hard” verses to the hard heartened groups. 6:44, 65.

5).Direct question to the TWELVE: Will you go away also? (v.67)

6) Peter, the spokesman, responds with the MESSIANIC CONFESSION. “THOU ART THE CHRIST.” (v.68-69)

7) Jesus’ declares that one of them “is a devil.” (v.70-71)
John 12:4-6; 13:2; 13:26-27; 13:11; 13:18; 13:21. Psalm 109:5-6;
Acts 1:16; Zech. 11:12;, 13; Psalm 41:9; Mt 26:56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.