

“Will Ye Also Go Away?”

John 6:66-68

Introduction:

- A. Did you ever think what it must have been like to be in the personal presence of Jesus?
- B. The personal presence did not guarantee disciple loyalty.
 - 1. How disappointing Jesus must have been!
 - 2. Not a “few”, but “many” turned back..
- C. Why would one turn back from following Jesus?
- D. Some reasons why disciples turn away from Jesus and his church.

Discussion:

I. Disappointment

- A. Because of following for the wrong reasons (John 6:26-27).
 - 1. Some come looking for a meal ticket, house rent, or clothes closet.
 - 2. Some come looking for a quick fix to all their earthly problems (cf. Lk. 12:13, 14).
 - 3. Some come looking for “special needs” programs for youth, seniors, singles, etc.
- B. Because of unjustified expectations (cf. John. 6:14-15).
 - 1. Some have come expecting a near perfect membership.
 - 2. Some have come expecting entertainment and “excitement” in worship.
 - 3. Some have come expecting to be accepted “as they are” and “where they are.”

II. Pressure

- A. To avoid persecution (2 Tim. 3:12; Heb.11:35)
 - 1. So, we avoid taking firm stands.
 - 2. So, we appease the persecutors.
- B. To conform to the world (1 Pet. 4:3, 4)
 - 1. Easier to go with trends, fads, styles, etc.
 - 2. Non-conformity is not difference or difference sake.
- C. To constantly obey (Luke 9:23; cf. Mal. 1:3).
 - 1. Love relieves the pressure.
 - 2. Humility relieves pressure

III. Drifting

- A. By inattention to fundamental Bible teaching (Heb. 2:1-4)
 - 1. Need to review the fundamentals often.
 - 2. Need to remind selves of what makes us distinctive.
- B. By losing our focus in life (Col. 3:2; Heb. 12:1,2)
 - 1. Like a ships captain whose attention is distracted.
 - 2. Often let materialism, pleasure, etc. distract us.
- C. By failing to secure our anchor (Heb. 6:19-20; 1 Pet. 3:15)
 - 1. Losing sight of our hope
 - 2. Turning to false hope.

IV. Deception

- A. By others (Eph. 5:6; Matt. 24:11)
 - 1. Allured by novelty and glitter.
 - 2. Allured by personality and promises.
- B. By ourselves (Jas. 1:21, 26)
 - 1. Resist tendency to believe what we want to believe.
 - 2. Resist the advice “listen to your heart.”

Conclusion:

- A. Peter’s answer is still good (v. 68)
- B. Will you come to Jesus for eternal life?