Jesus, My Life (John 6:60-71)

- When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"
 But Jesus, knowing in himself that
- his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?

Hard Sayings (Hard to accept)

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh...

⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

Hard Sayings (Hard to accept)

- Jesus: the bread from heaven (Incarnation)
- Jesus: the bread to be offered as a sacrifice (Cross)
- Jesus: the bread to eat (?)

⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.

⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

Eating the flesh of Jesus and drinking His blood:

Faith in Jesus

- Personal commitment.
- Jesus is to become as real to you as eating and drinking.

- ⁶⁶ After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him.
- ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?"

Jesus may have things to say that to us that we cannot accept.

Matthew 5

²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

"Do you want to go away as well?"

Matthew 19

- ¹⁶ And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" ...
- ²⁰ The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?"
- ²¹ Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

"Do you want to go away as well?"

Jesus wanted those who follow Him to seek Him for Himself, not for what He could do for them.

68 "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."

To whom would you go?

- To those who lead a hedonistic life?
- To those who lead a godless life?
- To those who lead a religious life?

68 "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 "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,

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.

"He (Jesus) is urging his readers... to go beyond a one-dimensional understanding of what he is doing and saying... and to break through to listen to the Word with the flesh. For this, they will need the spirit to help them. Without that, they will remain in unbelief."

(N. T. Wright)

We need the Holy Spirit to help us receive the life-giving words of Jesus.