

GRUMBLING ABOUT GOD

John 6:41-59

From: Scott Carlson

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INTRODUCTION: TWO POINTS OF FRICTION

Two points of friction emerge from John 6.

1. Jesus is teaching the people something that is difficult for them to understand.
2. Jesus is unwilling to teach the people in a way that might make it easier for them to understand.

The teaching throughout the passage is fairly simple. The problem we find is the dullness of the people to understand.

John Piper

If your heart is insubordinate, there are things you can't understand.

Proverbs 11:2

When pride comes, then comes dishonor; But with the humble there is wisdom.

And when it comes to knowing God and truth about Him, humility is crucial.

Romans 1:21

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Proverbs 15:33

The fear of the Lord is the instruction for wisdom, And before honor comes humility.

I. UNDERSTANDING THE SPIRITUAL POINT BEHIND THE BREAD, VV. 26-40

A. THE PEOPLE WERE THINKING ABOUT PHYSICAL BREAD

B. JESUS WAS OFFERING ETERNAL LIFE

vv. 26, 27

What good is never ending bread if you end up dying in the end anyway.

Mark 8:36

For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Strive for eternal things not temporary.

This is a not a foreign concept to the average Jew.

Psalm 16:11

You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy; —
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

? What must we do to receive the eternal life?

Point: Come to Jesus for what He offers.

II. UNDERSTANDING WHO JESUS IS

A. THEY COULDN'T SEE JESUS FOR WHO HE WAS, VV. 41-42

John 3:13

No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man.

B. JESUS EXPOSED WHY THEY STRUGGLED TO UNDERSTAND, VV. 43-46

Point: Come to Jesus exclusively as He is.

C. JESUS EXPLAINED HOW TO RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE, 43-51

? How does one receive eternal life?

III. UNDERSTANDING WHAT JESUS TAUGHT

Fighting (James 4:2)

A. THE PEOPLE DON'T UNDERSTAND EATING AND DRINKING, VV. 52

B. JESUS EMPHASIZES HIS POINT, VV. 53-59

Point: Come to Jesus on His terms.

CONCLUSION: IS JESUS ACCEPTABLE TO YOU?

1. Come to Jesus for what He offers.
2. Come to Jesus exclusively as He is.
3. Come to Jesus on His terms.

won't leave Him no matter how difficult the teaching.

APPLICATION

Every time we grumble and complain, we lower God and exalt ourselves. We prove that we don't understand something about God.

3 ways to respond