

Series: John

Title: To Whom Shall We Go?

Text: John 6: 66-69

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John 6: 66: From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. 67: Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? 68: Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. 69: And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

After Christ preached that he is the Bread of Life many went back and walked no more with him. He declared that that except the sinner believe on Christ we have no life in us. It is because Christ's broken body and shed blood is how Christ made his people righteous, putting away our sin. Christ declared that God the Father gave him a people and each one shall come to Christ and Christ shall never cast them out. He declared the Father shall draw each elect child to Christ for it is written in the scripture that they shall all be taught of God. Only those taught of God in the heart are made willing to come to Christ.

But those who were not God's chosen, who God did not teach in the heart, murmured at Christ's gospel. From that time many who had followed him for some time went back. They walked no more with him.

Our Lord did not chase after them. He knew who was his and who were not. Instead, the Lord turned to his true disciples and said, "Will ye also go away?" The apostle Peter usually acted as spokesman for them. So he spoke, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God."

Subject: To Whom Shall We Go?

Proposition: Those who God has made true disciples of Christ must have Christ for Christ is our Life.

NO OPTION—“*Lord, to whom shall we go?*”

It is important to note that Peter addresses our Savior as “*Lord.*” This is a term of reverence in those born of the Spirit and only those born of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12: 3: Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

No man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed. We cannot call Christ's blood common by saying he laid down his life for all sinners without exception. To think such is to call Christ a failure. It is to say he laid down his life to save a multitude who perish in their sins. It is calling Christ accursed. No man speaking by the Spirit of God can call Christ accursed.

Likewise, it is impossible for a man to call Jesus of Nazareth Lord from a new heart, in true faith, in submission to him, except by the Spirit of God. Those who went back wanted to make him their king for carnal reasons. They wanted *him* to bow to *their* will that they might

take him and make him king. But they could not bow and own him as their Lord who *they* must believe on to save *them*. It is because they were not born of the Spirit of God. Therefore, they went back and walked no more with him. But those born of the Spirit are made willing by his power to bow to Jesus of Nazareth as our Lord, our Sovereign Savior, our Master, our God confessing that Christ alone is our salvation. He alone is able to save us.

It is Christ himself who is our Salvation—"Lord, to *WHOM shall we go.*" The Lord Jesus himself is Salvation to his true disciples.

John 6: 35: And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst....47: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. 48: I am that bread of life.

Christ's is Life to those born of his Spirit. He is Bread for our soul even more than earthly bread is to our body. Christ is Eternal Life to true believers. We rejoice in the works our Redeemer accomplished for God's elect. But Christ's blood is effectual to put away sin and make us righteous because he, himself, is the GodMan, the LORD our Righteousness.

Colossians 1: 19: For it pleased *the Father* that IN HIM should all fulness dwell; 20: And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, BY HIM to reconcile all things unto himself; BY HIM, *I say*, whether *they be* things in earth, or things in heaven.

1 Peter 2: 7: Unto you therefore which believe HE is precious

It is Christ himself that is our All and in all—all our desire.

Haggai 2: 7: I will shake all nations, and THE DESIRE of all nations shall come.

Psalms 73: 25: WHOM have I in heaven *but thee?* and *there is none* upon earth *that I desire* beside THEE.

Christ himself is the Pearl of great price, he is our Treasure. It was Christ himself that Paul desired.

Philippians 3: 7: But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss FOR CHRIST. 8: Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of CHRIST JESUS MY LORD: FOR WHOM I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may WIN CHRIST, 9: And be found IN HIM, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10: That I may KNOW HIM, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

Notice how the bride speaks of Christ himself.

Song of Solomon 5: 9: What *is* thy beloved more than *another* beloved, O thou fairest among women? what *is* thy beloved more than *another* beloved, that thou dost so charge us? 10: My beloved *is* white and ruddy, the chiefest among ten thousand. 11: His head *is as* the most fine gold, his locks *are* bushy, *and* black as a raven. 12: His eyes *are as the eyes* of doves by the rivers of waters, washed with milk, *and* fitly set. 13: His cheeks *are as* a bed of spices, *as* sweet flowers: his lips *like* lilies, dropping sweet smelling myrrh. 14: His hands *are as* gold rings set with the beryl: his belly *is as* bright ivory overlaid

with sapphires. 15: His legs *are as* pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold: his countenance *is as* Lebanon, excellent as the cedars. 16: His mouth *is* most sweet: yea, HE IS ALTOGETHER LOVELY. This *is* my beloved, and this *is* my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem.

Why is this point so important? It is because having Christ we have all. We need no other. His true disciples want no other. We have no other choice but Christ. And we want no other—“*to whom shall we go?*”

Shall we turn to the law and our own righteousness? There is nothing there but a curse upon our filthy rags. Christ himself is our Righteousness. “For he hath made HIM sin for us who knew no sin that we might be made the righteousness of God IN HIM” (2 Cor 5: 21).

Shall we turn to a form of religion? What is religion without Christ? It is nothing but dead works and superstition. Christ is the Power of God. Christ is the Truth. Christ is the Gospel. No man comes to the Father but by HIM!

Shall we turn to our own wisdom and the riches of this world? “IN CHRIST are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col 2:3).

We could go on and on. Christ is All and in all his true disciples. “Lord, to whom shall we go?”

CHRIST’S WORDS—“*Thou hast the words of eternal life.*”

True disciples must have Christ’s words. Christ himself is the Word of Life.

1 John 1: 1: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; 2: (For the life was manifested, and we have seen *it*, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)

The words Christ speaks into us are spirit. It is Christ’s words that quicken and give life and continually renew our inward man.

John 6: 63: It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, are spirit, and are life.

Christ speaks life into us and continues to quicken us all our days

2 Corinthians 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

Ps 103: 2: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4: Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5: Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; *so that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

Christ is eternal life and the words he speaks are words of eternal life.—“*Thou hast the words of eternal life.*” Those that went back and walked no more with him wanted temporal health, wealth, prosperity. Christ is Eternal life! The words Christ speaks are to teach his people that which is far more valuable and enduring than temporal things. His words give eternal life.

Believers must have Christ because we need his words given us through the preaching of the gospel. It pleased God to save through the foolishness of preaching because this is how Christ through the Spirit speaks effectually into our heart giving us eternal life and renewing us continually. We cannot leave the preaching of the gospel because we cannot leave Christ.

FAITH AND ASSURANCE—“*We believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.*”

Christ’s true disciples have been given faith from God. Through faith in Christ we are sure that the Lord Jesus is that Christ, the Son of the living God.

Notice this order—“*We believe and are sure...*” Those who went back were carnal. Carnal man walks by sight and carnal reason. They wanted to understand his doctrine. Then once they were sure, they would believe him. That is not God’s way. The true order is “we believe and are sure.” It is impossible to have assurance and confidence until we are given faith and believe on Christ.

Psalm 27:13: *I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.*

Those given faith of God believe—“*We believe that thou art that Christ.*” “Christ” means the Anointed Savior. We believe the Lord Jesus is that Christ who God the Father anointed. We believe thou art “that Christ.” Anointed by God the Father. That Christ prophesied of, promised and pictured throughout the Old Testament.

We believe and are sure that God the Father appointed, authorized, and anointed the Lord Jesus to be the Savior of his people. He is the Savior of who the Father chose and sent and sealed.

John 6:27: Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

The Son of God was anointed by the Father when the Father chose him in eternity to be the salvation of his elect people. (Is 42: 1) On the banks of the Jordan, Christ was anointed with the Holy Ghost without measure (Mt 3:16; John 3: 34). As he promised through the prophet Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor" (Is 61:1; Luke 4: 18). Peter announced to the house of Cornelius: "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power" (Acts 10: 38).

He was anointed of the Father to lay down his life for his people accomplishing the Father’s glory and his people’s salvation

Acts 4: 27: For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together 28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

He refers to Psalm 2

Psalm 2: 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, 3 Let us break their bands asunder,

and cast away their cords from us. 4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. 5 Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure. 6: Yet have I set [anointed] my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

That which is sealed is sacred to the owner, and precious. He is the precious Christ to God the Father: his salvation, his righteousness, his intercession, and his love for God and his people. He is Jehovah's delight By anointing and sealing us with his Spirit—we believe and are sure he is that Christ—"unto you therefore which believe He is precious" (1 Peter 2: 7).

We believe and are sure he our Savior, our Salvation and we are complete in him. We believe are sure that Christ is our Head, our Captain, our Acceptance with the Father because he is the delight of the Father's heart. He is sealed upon our hearts. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit. We are sealed upon his heart. Therefore we are one. We shall know him and be conformed to him in perfection in glory.

We believe and are sure "*thou art the Son of God.*" We believe and are sure that the Lord Jesus is God in human flesh!

Colossians 2: 9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. 10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.

Those who went back only proved they were never born of the Spirit and taught of God. They never were given faith and never were sure in Christ. But our great GodMan, Mediator, shall keep us in faith, feeding upon the Bread of Life, sustained and strengthened according to the will of his Father according to his own love and grace and none that are his shall go back.

Heb 10: 35: Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. 36: For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. 37: For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry. 38: Now the just shall live by faith: but if *any man* draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. 39: But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

Amen!