

To Whom Shall We Go?

(John 6:67-68)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. – Nathaniel Hawthorne – “The New Adam & Eve.”
 - a. Still I cannot help thinking that the interpretation of the riddles amid which we have been wandering all day long might here be discovered. My dear Adam, Do fling down that stupid thing; for even if it should speak it would not be worth attending to. For my part, the air of this place does not suit me. If you love me, come away!
 2. These words by Hawthorne beg to be allegorized today.
 3. Consider how many voices call to us today, and beckon us to follow, promising countless blessings.
 4. This is precisely the question that is being entertained in John 6.
 - a. Jesus said some hard things to understand.
 - b. Some took offense and decided to choose a different direction for their lives.
 - c. Thus, Jesus asked his disciples if they too, would leave him for a different call.
 - d. Peter’s response is full of faith and insight – “To whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

I. Voices That Call Us

- A. Pleasure.
 1. (Philippians 3:19).
 2. However, the pursuit of pleasure results in depravity.
 3. Definition of Hedonism or Epicureanism (Acts 17).
 4. Ills. Elaine murdering a girl.
 5. Ills. Debbie leaving family.
- B. Materialism.
 1. (Luke 12:15).
 2. A million dollars and a bale of hay will be worth the same on Judgment day.
 3. Houses can’t hold our stuff; cars can’t fit in garages; rent storage sheds. While nothing is wrong with this, there is something wrong when missionaries have to come home because they can’t find support.
 4. (Luke 12:21).
 5. There’s no satisfaction in things...we always want more.
- C. Self-Serving/Manipulative Religion.
 1. The gospel of prosperity is appealing, but completely contrary to what Jesus taught (Matthew 16:24).
 2. We’ve created a God in our image, after our likeness.

3. Religion has become a production, an entertaining extravaganza.
4. Ills. – Greatest disappoint in life – Tent.
5. Some things are too sacred than to be sacrificed on the altar of entertainment.
6. Christianity cannot be marketed like other products because it contains an inherent offense – the cross (Galatians 5:11).
7. (Jude 12) Clouds without water.

II. Why I, Like Peter Choose to Follow the Voice of Jesus

- A. Because I'm Broken.
 1. Have you lived long enough to be broken and longingly pray, as did John, "Lord Jesus, come!"
 2. I have.
 3. Ills. Of Michael
 4. (Revelation 21:1-4) No more sorrow.
 5. In addition to removing my pain, he gives my pain purpose (1 Cor. 1:4).
 6. Ills. Of Kintsugi.
- B. Because He is the Way to the Father.
 1. Notice that I didn't say Heaven, I said the Father.
 - a. It's not the same.
 - b. (John 14:6).
 2. I hope our love for God isn't so shallow that it is based on what he can do for us more than for who he is.

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, I've heard the competing voices – "If you love me, come away."
 2. I've tuned out those voices and have committed myself to the Lord and I challenge you to do the same.
 3. Why? Because to whom else shall we go? Jesus has the words of eternal life!