

# JESUS BY JOHN

## The Bread & The Blood

### PART 1: The Scandal

PART 2: The Bread

PART 3: The Blood

#### APPETIZER: In Medias Res

*IN MEDIAS RES*: Latin for "into the middle of things." Describes a narrative that begins, not at the beginning of a story, but somewhere in the middle — usually at some crucial point in the action.

#### DINE IN: Was it something I said?

John 6:60-71

*What offended the deserting disciples?*

- Jesus' claim to have come down from heaven and to be returning there. (Hebrews 3:3 says that Jesus was claiming to be greater than Moses, the way a builder of a house is greater than the house itself.)
- Jesus' claim to be the one true bread from heaven.
- Jesus' claim that we needed to eat his flesh and drink his blood!

"offend" = SKANDALIZO: to cause to stumble or to become trapped, snared, stuck.

*The words of Jesus are full of the Spirit and life.*

**When your words came, I ate them;  
they were my joy and my heart's delight,  
for I bear your name,  
Lord God Almighty.  
~ The Prophet Jeremiah (Jeremiah 15:16)**

**Faith comes from hearing,  
and hearing by the word of Christ.  
~ The Apostle Paul (Romans 10:17)**

#### ASIDE / EXCURSUS – Is Jesus teaching TULIP? (Freewill VS Fate)

- **T** – Total Depravity (AKA, Total Inability. We are unable to have faith.)
- **U** – Unconditional Election (Nothing about us contributes to our salvation)
- **L** – Limited Atonement (AKA, Particular Atonement. Christ died for the elect only)
- **I** – Irresistible Grace (IF God calls you, you WILL respond positively)
- **P** – Perseverance of the Saints (AKA, Once Saved Always Saved)

v. 65 – ENABLES (*DIDOMI*) = to give or offer a gift (not force)

v. 44 – DRAWS (*HELKO*) = to draw or drag... **John 12:32**

v. 37 – See **6:70; 15:16, 19; 17:6, 9** = Christ's current disciples at that time are in view. This is choosing for vocation, not for salvation.

**Acts 28:22-31; Mark 4:9-12; Isaiah 55:10-11; 1 Tim 2:3-6; 2 Tim 4:2-5**

#### TAKE OUT: What else are you going to believe?

1. The creative Force that is the Source and Sustainer of all things is pure Love. Always relating, always engaging – the pure spiritual light of Love.
2. That Love made us in his own image and likeness, to reflect and magnify this love to each other and to all creation.
3. We have distorted our own calling and have wandered off the path of our purpose.
4. Jesus is The-God-Who-Is-Love come to us in our own form to lead us home. He embodies the way of love, peace, simplicity, and grace.
5. Right now, we can trust this good news of Jesus and receive his life and love as a gift. We can begin to live loved because we are. And we can pour out divine love to others and to all creation, because God himself is empowering us through the Holy Spirit to be fully ourselves.

**Show me your ways, Lord,  
teach me your paths.  
Guide me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are God my Savior.  
~ King David (Psalm 25:4-5)**

NEXT WEEK... Part 2 of "The Bread & The Blood" –  
with local teaching!

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## Home Church Questions

### **HANGOUT** [Warming Up to the Topic – in one Large Group]

1. Review Sunday's sermon and talk about what most interested you and/or lingering questions that remain.

### **HEAR** [Listening to God through Scripture – in Discussion Groups]

2. Read **John 6:60-71**.
  - a. What verse or idea stands out to you the most? Why?
  - b. What other teachings of Jesus do you find hard to accept/follow?
  - c. Some Christians interpret verse 65 to mean that God chooses who is saved and who is not. How do you respond to that? (Use Scripture to support your answer.)
  - d. The disciples who left Jesus had a significant change of attitude since verses 14-15. Do you think they turned away because they misunderstood Jesus, or because they understood him and could not accept it?
  - e. Has there been a time when you have wanted to stop following Jesus? Why? Why did the twelve decide to stay? Why do you?
3. Read **Psalm 25**. Take time to pray through this Psalm individually, quietly, slowly, meditatively. Allow these words to guide the expression of your heart. After a few minutes, come back together and talk about things that God might be saying to you through this passage.

### **HUDDLE** [Making It Personal and Praying Together – in Huddles]

4. Use your Huddle Questions and pray for one another.