



John: The Great "I AM" Gospel  
John 6:60-71  
From Sermon 11.5.23

Read *John 6:60-71*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: With His teaching on the Bread of Life concluded, it is now the crowd's turn to be put on trial. Their decision about Jesus' identity makes their true spiritual condition obvious. Likewise, the Apostles have also come to a monumental conclusion: Jesus is indeed the I AM of redemptive history. This powerful concluding section considers, again, the three categories of history: those who never hear the Gospel, those who hear and reject it, and those who hear and believe.

1. Word study: "stumble" (verse 61). Greek: *skandalizō*—from which, we get our English word scandal. = Offense/Offensive. Discuss: "Jesus is the most offensive, polarizing figure in all of human history."  
See also *1 Corinthians 1:23*

2. Read *1 John 2:19*. From this passage, along with the events in our key text, what does Scripture say is the main evidence of unbelief? Absence. Not part of the Body of Christ. Not in church. This would include, then: No desire or need for fellowship, corporate worship, serving in ministry, giving, learning under qualified leadership, and holy accountability.

3. What does the Bible say about those who hear the sound doctrine and truth, are offered the Gospel (Bread of Life), and choose to reject it? They will receive a more severe punishment/judgment.  
See also *Matthew 11:21-24, Hebrews 10:26-31, & 2 Peter 2:21*

4. Read *Luke 9:23*. Compare and contrast unbelief with belief and false disciples with true disciples. Various answers. Unbelief is self-focused and self-serving. Belief is bound to joyfully focus on Christ and the Kingdom. Unbelief is interested in what Jesus can do for them (and the modern church is providing it). Belief is interested in what can be done for Christ. Unbelief will always leave to follow the world. Belief will remain and follow Jesus wherever He leads.

5. Discuss the dwindling numbers: 20,000—a crowd (several hundred)—12—11—0...for a while. The world rejects the real Jesus. Hell will be vastly more populated than heaven. If God didn't choose and reserve a remnant that He will regenerate and provide the Gospel, no one would be saved. He's not interested in big churches, but faithful ones. Even when a true believer fails and goes astray, their return to Christ is evidence of genuine salvation.

6. Re-read *John 6:68-69*. The passage is full of terms of evidence. Discuss each.

- Lord: Master. Sovereign Savior. The God of the Bible
- You [alone]: Exclusivity. Salvation is found in no one else.
- Words: Belief is fed by the Word of God. It believes in the sufficiency and power of Scripture.
- Of Life: (a Promise). Belief sees far beyond the temporary and weighs the cost of discipleship.
- Believed (Works). Belief doesn't dismiss Jesus' miracles or try to explain them thru science.
- Have come to know (along with verse 70) = Spirit-filled with a gifted Faith.
- The Holy One of God—the true identity of Jesus—the I AM  
(Resulting in the true identity/condition of self: depravity, hopeless, carnal, unworthy)