

## Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

November 11, 2020

### John 6: 59 - 63

**59** These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum. **60** Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? **61** When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you? **62** What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before? **63** It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

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Pastor Tom reviewed the 2 questions he left us with last week:

1. How has the church compromised at times in dealing with the 'hard stuff'?
2. How has it worked out for us when the church has tried to smooth out the rough/difficult ideas?

### Verse 59

*"These things said he in the synagogue, as he taught in Capernaum."*

\*Jesus is teaching in a Jewish synagogue with all types of people present. The Pharisee leaders didn't like what Jesus taught, they didn't want to hear it but Jesus taught it anyway. Then there were the common people, some of which wanted to hear the Word and others who were there just out of obligation. As the Body of Christ (Church) we are not called to be arrogant or force our faith on anyone. But we are called to speak the Truth in love.

### Ephesians 4: 14-16

*14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; 15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

\*Even though Paul was teaching to the Church at Ephesus 2000 years ago, he might as well be teaching us today! And the lesson is still: Grow up! Our culture still has people who don't want to grow up, take responsibility, be accountable for their actions.

\*Paul goes on to share that as we grow (spiritual) we must guard against being sidetracked, wavering from our focus. ( The internet can really cause us to wander, waver, loose focus) And there are people of power who want to come into the church and who are not Christ centered. They are evil. They will teach strange, made-up stuff for their own purposes. Sadly, child predators target churches because we believe their lies! We must not judge but we must not be stupid either.

\*But instead speak the truth in love even when the truth is inconvenient and we don't want to hear it. We like the convenient, easy to hear and understand stuff instead.

\*Just because we love our grandkids so much doesn't mean they will get to Heaven on our beliefs.

\*If you allow anything that does not impact eternity to keep you out of church, that's on you (It's your responsibility, you are accountable for it.)

Can't we sacrifice ONE hour a week (either in person, or on the phone or internet) to hear the Truth? (Pastor Tom is getting tired of excuses for people not being in church) Then there was silence!

### **Verses 60 & 61**

*“Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it? 61 When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?”*

\* Does the Word of God offend you? If it doesn't, it should!

\*Pastor Tom brought up some news from Scotland:

There is a law being proposed that could result in clergy being arrested for hate crimes if they preach certain doctrines from the Bible. This may also apply to homes as well.

\*Pastor Tom reminded us that Scotland was once the site of a great revival in the country.

## **Verse 62**

*“What and if ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?”*

\*In a connection to the Ascension: No one on earth ever saw Jesus come down from Heaven the first time (At the manger) but...

Revelation 1: 7 says *“Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.”*

\*This is a fascinating picture: Everyone who is still on earth (maybe Rapture has already taken all believers up) will see Jesus come down from Heaven this time. And they will wail because now they know the Truth, what Jesus had said was true.

## **Verse 63**

*“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”*

\*Referring again to the Scots, they called the Rapture ‘The Great Quickening’.

\*The flesh is nothing (ashes to ashes, dust to dust) We are only here for such a little while. Physically death is part of life, the cycle of life and death. Does this offend us? Do we question- if God is so good, why are there bad things in the world?

## **II Timothy 3: 15 - 16**

*“15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”*

\*This is the reason why there are hard things to think about--- so we will grow. Like going from 2+2 on to 2X2 on to division, etc.

## **II Timothy 4: 2 - 4**

*“2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.”*

\*For a time will come when people won't listen to true teachings and turn from them to fables. These people will become gullible, rather than face the truth.

Pastor Tom then repeated the 2 questions again:

1. How has the church compromised at times in dealing with the 'hard stuff'?
2. How has it worked out for us when the church has tried to smooth out the rough/difficult ideas?

\*The more we get into the study of the Book of John, the more apparent the hard things will be. But this group that meets is here to grow in Jesus Christ, to be molded into His likeness.

\*The Word of God will cut like a sword. The spirit will speak to you so you can be stronger than the smooth talkers.

\*As much as it hurts us, we still have to speak the Truth in Love!

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Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

*May the Lord watch between me and thee,  
While we are absent one from the other.*

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Pastor Tom also reminded us about a speaker coming on the 22nd.