



SERMON IN REVIEW

January 26, 2020 – Rick Myatt



DINNER TIME

1st in a Series on Difficult Sayings of Jesus Titled, "What Did He Say?"

Passage: John 6:53-54 - Topic: Having a Full Life

This past Sunday, Rick began a new sermon series on difficult sayings of Jesus. Many times, Jesus' words seem strange, and even counter-intuitive. But these were actually planned communications presented in a deliberately showstopping manner to make His point. So Rick began the series with one of the strangest: Jesus said we must eat His flesh and drink His blood to have life.

First, Rick established that this is not to be taken literally: Jesus was definitely not advocating cannibalism. Then he showed evidence that Jesus was not referring to communion, as He said it long before that was initiated at the Last Supper.

What it *is* about: Rick made a compelling case and used math's Transitive Principle: If $A = B$, and $B = C$, then A must = C . He then applied it to this strange command of Jesus:

If believing in Jesus results in eternal life, and eating His flesh and drinking His blood results in eternal life, then eating His flesh and drinking His blood means believing in Him.

Rick taught that Jesus was for life, not cannibalism. We looked at many verses in John Chapter 6 that spoke of life. We saw that in some cases, "life" seems to be about eternal life *and* life on this planet. (John 10:10 says He came to give us *abundant* life, meaning in the here and now.) The life Jesus gives is *real* life, when we are *fully* alive, with the fullness of life as God defines it (all the very best things in creation). If people are not experiencing abundant life as they desire it, they are looking for it in all the wrong places. They seek it in cheap imitations of life-giving sources, like the temporal pleasures of this world. (These actually *erode* the life that Jesus desires to give them.) Life is found in Jesus. Eat of His flesh and drink of His blood: believe in Him like your life depends on it...because it does.

Rick explained that Jesus employed shock therapy to convey how to get life because the natural man pulls away from believing in Jesus for life. The natural man needs Jesus to resort to shocking imagery like cannibalism.

In application, Rick recommended four things:

1. Feast on Jesus! Place your faith in Him.
2. *Keep* believing in Jesus (feasting on Him). Find spots where your faith is missing and fill it with **TRUTH** - where you are not grasping truth is your anti-life. What you seek that is not Jesus is a cheap imitation of a life-giver.
3. Take your pulse (especially when evidencing in yourself signs of anti-life like discouragement or bitterness). Identify what it is you are looking to for giving you life.
4. Rejoice in the life *Jesus* gives! And give thanks.