

Scripture

John 6:53-69 (NLT)

6:53 So Jesus said again, “I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you cannot have eternal life within you. **54** But anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise that person at the last day. **55** For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. **56** Anyone who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.”

57 “I live because of the living Father who sent me; in the same way, anyone who feeds on me will live because of me.”

58 “I am the true bread that came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will not die as your ancestors did (*even though they ate the manna*) but will live forever.”

59 He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

- 60 Many of his disciples said, “This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?”
- 61 Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, “Does this offend you? 62 Then what will you think if you see the Son of Man ascend to heaven again? 63 The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”

64 “**But some of you do not believe me.**” (*For Jesus knew from the beginning which ones didn't believe, and he knew who would betray him.*) 65 Then he said, “**That is why I said that people can't come to me unless the Father gives them to me.**”

66 At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him. 67 Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “**Are you also going to leave?**”

68 Simon Peter replied, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. 69 We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God.”