

John 6:52-58

John 6:52-58 – “(52) *The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?* (53) *Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.* (54) *Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.* (55) *For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.* (56) *He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.* (57) *As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.* (58) *This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.*”

A. These Jews fought among themselves rather than asking to be taught (**Psalms 10:4, Psalms 119:155, and Proverbs 1:7**).

1. They fought among themselves as the truth often causes division among carnally minded individuals (**Luke 12:49-53, John 7:40-43, John 9:16, John 10:19, Acts 13:45-50, and Acts 14:1-5**).
2. These folks were not prepared to seek the truth (**I Samuel 7:3, II Chronicles 12:13-14, Ezra 7:10, Psalms 119:11, Proverbs 23:12, Ecclesiastes 7:25, Luke 8:15, Romans 10:8, I Thessalonians 2:13, James 1:19-21, and II Peter 1:19**).

B. Jesus wasn't teaching anyone to literally eat His flesh or drink His blood (**Leviticus 17:14 and Acts 15:29**).

1. Like Nicodemus (**John 3:3-12**), these Jews are missing that this is a spiritual point instead of a physical instruction (**Proverbs 14:6, I Corinthians 2:14, John 8:42-44, and Romans 8:5-8**).
2. The point Jesus is teaching is that one must consume the Living Word, speaking of Himself (**John 1:1-5; 1:14**), to be saved (**Matthew 4:4**).
3. We have to have the word of Christ dwelling in us (**Colossians 3:16**).
4. Paul would later make the same point talking about how the Jews were delivered from Egypt in the Old Testament (**I Corinthians 10:1-4**).
5. One cannot read this whole context and honestly think Jesus is talking about anything other than consuming the word of God: *“It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life**”* (**John 6:63**).

C. This lesson is hard to see if you look to make a carnal application. This text is no different than other figurative texts in the New Testament:

1. Do we literally walk in a physical light (**John 8:12, Ephesians 5:8, and I John 1:7**)?
2. Does one literally eat the pages of the Scriptures (**Jeremiah 15:16**)?
3. Does one literally dwell in God (**I John 4:15-16**)?
4. Is the living water literally drawn from a carnal well (**John 4:10-14**)?
5. Were you literally washed in the blood of Jesus (**Revelation 1:5; cf. Acts 22:16**)?