

RADIO SERVICE JAN. 25, 1943.

John 6:68.

THE SIXTH CHAPTER OF JOHN IS A LONG CHAPTER. IT CONTAINS SEVENTY ONE VERSES. IN THIS CHAPTER WE HAVE THE ACCOUNT OF THE FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND, WE HAVE THE STORY OF HIS WALKING ON THE SEA, AND HIS DISCOURSE ON THE LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN.....WHICH HE WAS. AFTER JESUS HAD GIVEN HIS DISCOURSE ON THE BREAD FROM HEAVEN SOME OF THE DISCIPLES SAID, "THIS IS A HARD SAYING...WHO CAN HEAR IT? IN OTHER WORDS "WHO CAN BELIEVE SUCH A STATEMENT?"

THOSE MEN REPRESENTED A CLASS OF PEOPLE THAT WE HAVE WITH US TO DAY. THEY HAD BEEN WITH JESUS. THEY HAD HEARD HIM TEACH...LIKELY THEY HAD SEEN REMARKABLE THINGS HAPPEN AT HIS HANDS...BUT THEY HAD FAILED TO GET AN ESTIMATE OF HIM THAT BUILT HIM UP IN THEIR THINKING TO THE STATUS OF A BEING BIG ENOUGH AND POWERFUL ENOUGH AND DIVINE ENOUGH TO HAVE COME FROM HEAVEN AS LIVING BREAD.

WE HAVE PEOPLE TODAY JUST LIKE THAT. THEY SEE THE CHURCH AT WORK...WONDERFUL THINGS ARE DONE...HARD SINNERS QUIT THE EVIL THEY HAVE BEEN DOING...MEN AND WOMEN GO OUT IN DANGEROUS PLACES AND GIVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE KINGDOM AND YET A THROG OF PEOPLE...EVEN CHURCH MEMBERS LOOK ON IT ALL AS JUST A SORT OF SURFACE THING...JUST HAPPEN SOS AND LEAVE IT AT THAT. THIS EXPLAINS PARTIALLY WHY IT IS THAT ABOUT TWENTY FIVE PERCENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT THE CHURCH FINANCIALLY AND ABOUT TWENTY FIVE OR THIRTY PERCENT ATTEND ITS SERVICES.

NO BODY EXPECTS ANY BODY TO GIVE WHO DOES NOT HAVE IT TO GIVE. NO BODY OF A GOOD MIND AND AN UNDERSTANDING SPIRIT EXPECTS ANY BODY TO ATTEND CHURCH WHO IS NOT ABLE. GOD... DOES NOT EXPECT THEM. HOWEVER IN THE TIME OF JESUS PEOPLE WERE KNOWN TO CARRY A PERSON TO CHURCH ON A STRETCHER AND A GREAT BLESSING CAME OUT OF IT. YET THERE ARE PEOPLE LISTENING IN TO NIGHT...MOST LIKELY....WHO HAVE MONEY TO BUY ANY THING THEY WANT AND THEY GO ANY WHERE THEY WANT TO GO BUT WHO HAVE GIVEN NOTHING TO THE CHURCH IN YEARS AND WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED CHURCH IN YEARS. YOU WHO ARE IN THAT CONDITION TONIGHT ARE A PROLONGATION OF THAT GROUP BACK THERE WHO SAID..IN EFFECT...WHO CAN TAKE SUCH THINGS SERIOUSLY?"

THIS BRINGS ME UP TO OUR SCRIPTURE LESSON FOR THIS EVENING. PERHAPS YOU THOUGHT BY THIS TIME THAT THE PREACHER WAS GOING TO PREACH WITHOUT READING A LESSON FROM THE SCRIPTURES BUT ON PURPOSE I HAVE RESERVED THE LESSON TILL NOW..I WANT YOU TO GET THE LESSON FOR IT IS REALLY WORTH WHILE. WE BEGIN WITH THE SIXTY SIXTH VERSE AND READ THE REST OF THE SIXTH CHAPTER OF JOHN.....

"FROM THAT TIME MANY OF HIS DISCIPLES WENT BACK AND WALKED NO MORE WITH HIM.

THEN SAID JESUS UNTO THE TWELVE 'WILL YE ALSO GO AWAY'?

THEN SIMON PETER ANSWERED HIM LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO... THOU HAST THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE. AND WE BELIEVE AND ARE SURE THAT THOU ART THAT CHRIST THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD... AND JESUS ANSWERED THEM...HAVE NOT I CHOSEN YOU TWELVE AND ONE OF YOU IS A DEVIL.....

HE SPAKE OF JUDAS IS CACARIOT THE SON OF SIMON: FOR HE IT WAS THAT SHOULD BETRAY HIM BEING ONE OF THE TWELVE."

THERE ARE MANY PATHETIC THINGS REVEALED TO US IN THE LIFE OF JESUS. WE READ OF AN INCIDENT WHERE AN ANGRY MOB FOLLOWED HIM AND STONED HIM. THEN CAME THE WONDERFUL WORDS OF PATHOS WHEN HE SAID, "MANY GOOD WORKS HAVE I SHOWN YOU FROM MY FATHER FOR WHICH OF THESE DO YOU STONE ME?" THAT WAS CRUEL TREATMENT TO ADMINISTER TO THE SON OF GOD. IT IS CRUEL TO MISTREAT ANY PERSON FOR A GOOD DEED...YET IN CHRISTIANITY MANY DIE FOR PREACHING THE GOSPEL. THESE INCIDENTS GIVEN ARE SAD BUT NONE IS SADDER TO ME THAN THE ONE IN OUR TEXT.

IN GALILEE HIS SUCCESS WAS ALL THAT COULD BE DESIRED. GREAT CROWDS OF PEOPLE FOLLOWED HIM. BUT IT WAS SOON FOUND OUT THAT THEY WERE FOLLOWING HIM FOR MATERIAL ADVANTAGES AND POLITICAL ENDS. THERE IS A PROLONGATION OF THAT GROUP ALSO TODAY. I WILL LET YOU NAME THEM. IN SUCH A SITUATION THERE WAS GREAT DANGER OF THEIR LOSING SIGHT OF HIS GREAT AND REAL PURPOSE. IT WAS NECESSARY THAT HE SCREEN THE CROWD AND SEE WHO WOULD DROP THROUGH THE SCREEN AND ALSO WHO WOULD REMAIN..HE THEREFORE GAVE THEM THE SHARP TEACHINGS INCLUDED IN THIS CHAPTER THE CROWD COULD NOT ACCEPT IT AND BEGAN TO LEAVE BY TWOS AND FOURS TILL AT LAST ONLY THE TWELVE REMAINED.EVEN EIGHT AND ONE THIRD PERCENTY OF THOSE WAS DEVIL. THEN CAME THAT MOST PATHETIC UTTERANCE ..."WILL YE ALSO GO AWAY.?"

THAT SAD QUESTION PRODUCED OR GERMINATED THE TEXT FOR TONIGHT."LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? THOU HAST THE WORDS OF

#2.

ETERNAL LIFE." IN OTHER WORDS...LORD YOU HAVE THE WORDS THAT HAVE LIFE IN THEM.

THIS TEXT HAS IN IT A GREAT ASSUMPTION...THAT IS THAT MAN MUST HAVE ONE TO WHOM HE CAN GO. THE SOUL WANTS SOME ONE AND HE SOUL DEMANDS SOME ONE. MAN CAN NOT LIVE WITHOUT A MASTER HE CAN NOT LIVE WITHOUT A GUIDE....NOR LIVE WITHOUT A REVEALER...WITHOUT A COMFORTER...HE IS SO CONSTITUTED THAT HE CAN NOT LIVE ALONE...SO THIS TEXT THAT THE QUESTION OF JESUS PRODUCED IN PETER CONTAINS THREE GREAT THOUGHTS....

I.THE FACT...THAT WE NEED SOME ONE TO WHOM WE CAN GO.

PETER GRASPED THE SITUATION AT ONCE...LIKELY THERE CAME TO HIS MIND SUCH GREAT MASTERS AS MOSES AND JOHN THE BAPTIST... BUT STANDING IN THE LIGHT OF JESUS IT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE TO TURN TO THEM..SO HE CRIED OUT THE TEXT..LORD TO WHOM?

A.WE NEED SOME ONE TO LIFT US ABOVE CIRCUMSTANCES. SOME ONE TO LIFT US UP WHEN OUR HEART STRINGS SNAP AND WE LIE PROSTRATE IN OUR GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE. MAN IS A VICTIM OF CIRCUMSTANCE. IN LIFE TROUBLES WILL SOMETIMES SWEEP OVER US LIKE BILLOWS OVER THE OCEAN. WE NEED SOME ONE TO COME WALKING ON THE WATERS AND REACH DOWN AND LIFT US UP ERE WE SINK.

B.WE NEED SOME ONE TO LIFT US ABOVE DEATH. PAUL DOES NOT SAY TOO MUCH UPON THIS SUBJECT WHEN HE DECLARES..."THROUGH THE FEARS OF DEATH WE ARE SUBJECT UNTO BONDAGE." ITS DREAD IS UNIVERSAL..THE STARING EYE..THE COLD SWEAT...THE PALID FACE MAKE COWARDS OF US ALL. NO MATTER HOW YOU PICTURE DEATH IT IS APPALLING. WE MAY FORGET DEATH WHEN WE ARE IN HEALTH.. LOCK HIM OUT WHILE WE ARE IN THE WHIRL OF SOCIETY...BUT REMEMBER HE STANDS JUST OUTSIDE THE DOOR...NOW AND THEN.... BEACONING...OTHER TIMES COMING IN AND USING HIS SCEPTRE..

WE NEED SOME ONE TO LIFT US ABOVE DEATH..WHO IS HE?<sup>not</sup>  
C. WE NEED SOME ONE WHO CAN LIFT US ABOVE SIN. WE CAN LIFT OURSELVES...BUT DO NOT FORGET...THERE IS SOMETHING YOU CAN DO.BARTEMIOUS COULD SAY "THOU SON OF DAVID HAVE MERCY UPON ME." IT WAS BUT A FIGURE OF WHAT ONE CAN DO WHEN THE WOMAN PRESSED THROUGH THE CROWD THAT SHE MIGHT TOUCH HIS GARMENT...AFTER DOING THAT SHE WAS HEALED..YES YOU CAN DO SOMETHING...YOU CAN GO TO THE ONE WHO CAN LIFT...WHO IS HE?

D. WE NEED SOME ONE TO WHOM WE CAN GO FOR IDEALS.....

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I AM TOLD THAT A PAINTER KEEPS A DIAMOND ON HIS EASEL TO KEEP HIS EYES IN TONE. WE NEED SOME ONE TO <sup>PUT</sup> US BACK OUR LOST IDEALS AND TUNE UP OUR LIVES. THE TUNER BRINGS THE STRING TO THE RIGHT PITCH BY USE OF THE TUNING FORK. WE NEED SOME ONE TO KEEP OUR HEARTS TUNED. MANS LIFE AND AFFECTIONS SHOULD BE IN HARMONY WITH GOD.

II. THE QUESTION...TO WHOM SHALL WE GO? THIS VIRTUALLY MEANS WHAT CAN WE SUBSTITUTE FOR THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST? MEN TRY TO DEMONSTRATE THE ABSURDITY OF PRAYER..THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF MIRACLES...UNLIKELY HOOD OF THE INCARNATION...CALL THE RESURRECTION A MYTH....THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE A FALSEHOOD.. BUT AFTER ALL THEIR CHAFF FAILS TO FEED THE SOUL.

A FRENCH INFIDEL TAUGHT HIS MOTHER TO BELIEVE IN HIS INFIDELITY..BUT AS SHE LAY ON HER DEATH BED SHE LOOKED UP INTO HIS EYES AND SAID "MY SON YOU HAVE TAKEN AWAY MY SAVIOR.. WHAT WILL YOU GIVE ME NOW IN MY DYING HOUR?" WE NEED SOME POSITIVE...SOME HANDHOLD SOME RAY OF HOPE AS WE STAND HUDDLED SHIVERING AND FRIGHTENED ON THE SAND BANK OF FINITE EXISTENCE.

CAN WE GO TO THE GOD OF WEALTH? SHALL WE TRY TO SMOTHER OUR FEARS? DROWN OUR SORROWS AND TAKE AS OUR IDEAL WEALTH? ONE OF TWO MEN IN A CONVERSATION SAID.."I HAVE OBTAINED EVERY.. THING I STARTED OUT AFTER WHEN I BEGAN LIFE...EXCEPT ONE THING..AND THAT ONE THING I WANTED MORE THAN ALL THE REST. I HAVE WON THE RACE OF MILLIONS..HIS FRIEND ASKED..."WHAT WAS THAT ONE THING?" "HAPPINESS" HE REPLIED.

CAN WE GO TO THE GOD OF PLEASURE? WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP...IF YOU ARE CRAVING SOMETHING IN YOUR SOUL AND YOU ARE TRYING TO FILL THAT LONGING AT THE COCKTAIL PARTY? STRIP POKER...OR HIGH SOCIAL FUNCTIONS YOU YOU ARE IN FOR A FALL....IN SOUTH AMERICA THEY HAVE A TREE CALLED THE "JUDAS TREE"...IT HAS BEAUTIFUL AND FRAGRANT BLOSSOMS..BUT THOSE FLOWERS CONTAIN A DEADLY OPIATE..AFTER ATTRACTING THE INSECTS IT KILLS THEM. LURKING BEHIND THE PERSUASION OF SIN IS A DEADLY POISON..IT IS SAID THAT AT THE FOOT OF EVERY DESERT CACTUS ON WHICH GROWS A BEAUTIFUL FLOWER? A SERPENT IS TO BE FOUND...OUR MOST CHERISHED PLEASURES AT TIMES HARBOR THE GREATEST SINS...

CAN WE GO TO THE GOD OF HONOR AND POSITION?.....

#5

~~THERE~~ ARE THOSE WHO TRY TO FIND HAPPINESS IN HONOR AND POSITION AND IN THE APPLAUSE OF PEOPLE. FAME GLORY AND HONOR ARE GREAT THINGS BUT THEY DO NOT SATISFY OUR SOUL'S CRY...

THERE COME TIMES WHEN WEALTH..PLEASURE ...AND HONOR DO NOT SATISFY..THERE COMES A TIME IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE HEART AND SURROUNDINGS WHEN WE CAST OUR EYES HEAVENWARD AND CRY.....  
"ORD TO WHOM CAN WE GO?" WE HAVE THE ANSWER....

III. THOU HAST THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE...THOU HAST THE GOSPEL. THOU..PETER WAS NOT ONLY CONVINCED THAT JESUS HAD THE WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE BUT THAT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE. HE SAID ONCE BEFORE "THOU ART THE CHRIST" AND RECEIVED A BLESSING...  
JESUS STANDS AS THE HIGHEST FIGURE OF ALL AGES...LISTEN TO THE FOLLOWING:

A. ROBERT INGERSOL..."NO MAN EVER TOWERED AS HIGH AS DID JESUS

B. TOM PAIN..."HE IS ABOVE ALL OTHERS."

ETERNAL LIFE....ALL OF US KNOW THAT ACCORDING TO NATURE WILL ONE DAY GATHER OUR SHROUDS AROUND US AND LIE DOWN AND DIE...THEN THE ETERNAL LIFE JESUS CAN GIVE WILL LOOM UP BEFORE US WITH GREAT IMPORTANCE...

AN OLD SLAVE WAS REMEMBERED IN THE WILL OF HIS MASTER... THE POOR OLD COLORED MAN WHEN TOLD OF IT CRIED OUT.."DOES HE MEAN ME..POOR RAGGED SLAVE DOES HE MEAN ME?" YES HE DID::::::

PRECIUOS IS THE FOUNTAIN  
EVER FLOWING FULL AND FREE  
JESUS CAME TO SEEK AND SAVE  
JUST SUCH SINNERS AS YOU AND ME.

