

THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS

A SERIES ON HOW JESUS MINISTERED

*"Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said,
This is an hard saying; who can hear it?"*

~ John 6:60

1. When Jesus Talked

- a. This series is not a complete picture of Jesus' ministry, but an accurate one
- b. Many people use Jesus as a divine fortune cookie: *"do unto others..."*
- c. Jesus is pictured with children and conclude he taught simply and with tolerance
- d. When Jesus talked, many didn't understand; most today would not recognize him
- e. There were many hard sayings of Jesus, not the least of which were his parables

2. Hard Sayings for Israel

- a. Jesus was confrontational in his approach, but sometimes his words were hard
- b. He talked about doing miracles no one had seen – John 2:19, 20:8-9
- c. He acted and spoke like God – John 10:33, 5:18, Mark 2:7, Matt 12:8
- d. He kept the really amazing things secret – Mark 9:9-10, Luke 8:51-56
- e. *"See that no man know it"* – Matt 9:27-30, Matt 16:20
- f. He spoke about his own death – Matt 16:21-22, Mark 9:32
- g. He left people without understanding - Luke 2:49-50, 18:34, John 8:27, 12:15-16
- h. His hard sayings drove people away – John 6:60-67
- i. He spoke in parables to hide the truth from people – Matt 13:9-15

3. Hard Sayings for the Church

- a. He was a Jewish minister of the circumcision in Israel, not to the church- Rom 15:8
- b. There are hard sayings for the church that fails to rightly divide
- c. He taught the law like a legalist – Matt 5:17-18, John 14:15, Matt 25:45-46, 19:17
 - i. His teaching on divorce was harder than the law – Matt 19:8-10
 - ii. He told people to offer sacrifices – Matt 8:4, Matt 23:2-3, 23:23
- d. He taught to sell/leave all you had – Matt 19:21, Luke 18:22, 12:33, 14:26-27
- e. He taught hell fire and punishment – Matt 13:40-42, 13:47-51, 18:9
- f. He taught the end times like Harold Camping – Matt 24:32-33
- g. He taught separation between Jew and Gentile – Matt 10:5, 15:26, John 4:22-23

4. Our Pattern

- a. We know why Jesus spoke in difficulties on occasion, and why he taught the law
- b. Paul does not keep secrets, he reveals them – Rom 16:25, Acts 20:27, Eph 3:4
- c. The manifold wisdom of God is now revealed – Eph 1:9, Eph 3:10
- d. Salvation is simple, grace is simple, because there are no works, no law – Rom 4:5
- e. The Lord made our ministry simple and easy to understand – 1 Cor 2:2, 2 Cor 5:21