

Divine Sorrow over Spiritual Defection

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 6.

B. Spiritual defection causes the Lord sorrow.

C. Spiritual defectors are attracted by the crowd, they are fascinated by the supernatural, they tend to think only of earthly things, and they have no desire for true worship. (John 18)

II. Spiritual defectors are seekers of personal prosperity, they make demands upon God for power, proof, and provision.

III. The Spiritual defector seeks no personal relationship.

IV. The spiritual defector mocks.

V. The spiritual defector has no hunger for divine truth. (Isaiah 50:14)

A. Salvation is spiritual life.

B. The defector is only hungry for the world.

VII. The response.

A. The defectors left.

B. The true disciples stayed.

C. Jesus knew who would stay and who would leave already because of his sovereignty and omniscience.

D. Some spiritual defectors leave early, but others like Judas stay until the end.

Application Questions:

1. Why is it important to recognize the marks of a spiritual defector?

2. How should we respond when we see someone in the church who is characterized by these marks?

3. How should a Christian respond when he or she sees some of these marks in his or her own life? Explain.
