

See While the Light is Shining

"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die. So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." When Jesus had said these things, he departed and hid himself from them. (John 12:27-36 ESV)

❖ Intro:

➤ Remember the Purpose of the book of John

- John 20:30-31 ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

➤ Mary washes the feet of Jesus...

- We asked the question: How much do you value Jesus... I
 - almost want to go back to that sermon again... and ask myself this question once more

➤ The Jewish leaders were trying to kill Lazarus

➤ Jesus Triumphant entry into Jerusalem

- The people are praising Him and calling him their king
- Then we see the Greeks that have come to worship and they are seeking Jesus...
- They came to Andrew... Andrew takes them to Jesus...

➤ It is this conversation that we are still in today..

- Jesus begins to tell them of His death,
- Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies and bears fruit

➤ Begins to tell them how they can come to gain eternal life..

- how they can come to Him
- hate your life to keep it
- To serve, they must follow
- If anyone serves, the father will honor Him

➤ So Jesus continues talking to these Greeks that have come to worship...

- and come seeking Him...
- Remember that these guys are a picture of us...
- of the non Jewish People that have been brought into the Kingdom of God...

➤ Let us never see ourselves as deserving enough

- to be brought into the kingdom of God because we just deserve it...
- it is only by rich and merciful grace that we are allowed to be a part of this kingdom

❖ We Pick Up Today At: Jesus' Ending Plea to the Crowd of Greeks and Jews

➤ Believe in the light so you may be Sons of Light

- So this is the climax of the whole story.
- This is what the text comes to in the end.

➤ It is all building up in a way for Jesus to say....

- Believe in the light so you may become sons of light....

- **The message is the same for you today...**
 - I want you to see that and hear the concern Jesus has in His voice and his heart...
- **For the crowd that day...**
 - Jesus is telling them that He will only be with them a little longer....
 - The light will be here just a little longer...
 - So walk in the light now while the light is here...
 - Do not continue to walk in the darkness....
- **For some today...**
 - It is the same thing...
 - The light of the gospel of the good news of Jesus Christ coming for lost sinner is shining into your soul....
 - And you keep asking questions and wondering if it is true
 - and going over in your mind what it will mean if you indeed decided to follow Him...
- **But... The light will only be with you a short time and then there will be darkness....**
 - Today you can believe in the light....
- **Practically that is what we have going on in these verses today...**
 - So Please look and listen to this text in light of His final plea...
 - And notice the mistake of the crowd... the mistake of the hearers...
 - Do not make the same mistakes...
 - So... Let's look at what led Jesus to say this....
- **Because:**
 - There is no time to sleep...
 - There is not time to let your mind wonder...
 - God is calling us into His service... he is calling us to hear and obey...
 - God knows when the end is coming... and He is adamant that we listen....

❖ **Jesus Soul is greatly troubled....**

- **"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.**
- **My Soul is troubled**
 - And what shall I say? Father save me from this hour
 - An honest question born out of the grief in the soul of Jesus
 - He was not only God, but He took on the nature of Man...
 - ◆ **What an amazing look into the love and humility of God...**
 - That He would empty himself so greatly that He would come to this point
 - Where He would say... What shall I say... Save me from this hour...
- **Jesus soul was troubled because**
 - He is about to suffer for the sins of the world.
 - It isn't the pain his body is about to undergo that bothers Him I do not believe
 - Rather...I think He is in anguish over the sins of people...
 - He is burdened for our sins and our state of being
- **He is troubled over what Satan has done to this World**
 - He is about to go to war with Satan...
 - He is about to crush the head of the serpent...
- **History Lesson:**
 - God made this earth... and everything in it... and it was good.
 - He also created an angel by the name of Lucifer...
 - And Lucifer was a great and mighty angel... And He saw himself as such
 - So He decided that He wanted to be like God...

- He wanted what God had... He wanted the headship and adoration that belonged only to God
- So there was sin found in His heart...
- **So Satan fell.... The first of His many falls... From being a glorious angel... to being a Demonic lord**
 - And when He fell from this position... 1/3 of the angels fell with Him...
 - I am sure He promised them many things as He likes to do...
 - And He began to wage a war against God...
- **Well, this affected man greatly...**
 - God created us in His own image
 - And maybe Satan was a little jealous of this...
- **So Satan comes to the Woman and the Man...**
 - And tempts them...
 - And the way He tempts them is with the same sin He himself was found guilty of.
 - Being like God.
- **Satan tells Eve:**
 - Genesis 3:4-6 ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.
 - **So... this is where we have been since that day... In open rebellion against God...**
 - ◆ But... God desired to Redeem mankind...
 - ◆ And you will see from that point forward that God set things in motion for the redemption of mankind...
 - ◆ And God had a way that He wanted to do it, and that is how He does it...
- **So We see the anguish of the Soul of Jesus.... And then we see Him say**
 - It is His purpose...
- **Jesus says It is His purpose...**
 - He said.... **It is for this purpose I came....**
 - 1 John 3:8^b **Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.**
 - Luke 19:10¹⁰ **For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."**
 - Nothing is Going to Stop Him...

❖ **The Fathers glory is the Sons desire**

- **Father, glorify your name."** Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.
- **First of all... It should be noted...**
 - This self glorification of God is a stumbling block to many...
 - Hopefully it will not be so for you as you see how important and beneficial it is to you...
 - There is much that can be said here, but I will just say a few things...
- **God's Glory is Paramount in the life of Jesus...**
 - Isaiah 42:8⁸ **I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.**
 - Exodus 34:14¹⁴ **(for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God),**
 - Isaiah 46:9-10⁹ **remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰ declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,'**

- With many other verses I could show you that God's glory is important to Him...
- **I would Also say there is nothing more important to God...**
 - Than that He be glorified...
 - God's glory is more important than You and Me...
 - Do you hear that... God is more important than us...
- **Why is Gods glorification so important for men?**
 - When God is glorified...
 - You are blessed... Things are better for you...
 - When God's purposes are followed, Men will be blessed...
 - We would suffer greatly if God is not glorified...
- **Example:**
 - When God is not glorified in the life of men, devastation and destruction come their way...
 - Let me say... this is not to say that God's will is frustrated because we have sinned...
 - In the end, this will lead to God being Glorified greatly...
 - He is allowing sin to have its day for a season...
 - He is allowing Satan to have his way to an extent, for a season...
 - And He has His purposes...
 - **But you see...**
 - When Adam sinned against God there in the garden...
 - It was open rebellion...
 - May have seemed innocent and not a big deal...
 - What is wrong with gaining knowledge and wisdom you may say...
 - But it led to their first born child murdering their second child..
 - And then it has led to every murder, and rape and theft and sin know to man...
 - Why?
 - All because God was not glorified in their lives...
- **So Jesus' Desire is that God's name be glorified in Him...**
 - And how will God be glorified in Jesus?
 - His Death
- **The Torture and Death of Jesus Leads to God's Glorification... And Man Benefits...**
 - Jesus has spoken of His death... and will continue to speak of His Death...
 - **Father, glorify your name."** Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.

❖ **Judgment of the World Was Going to Come Through His Death**

- **Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."** He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.
- **Now is the judgment of this world**
- **The ruler will be cast out**
 - Satan... He is the ruler of this world...
 - **Ephesians 2:1-2** ¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the **prince of the power** of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—
 - **We gave Him Power over this World When We bowed to Him in the garden of Eden...**
 - God had given man authority and power over this world...
 - But we lost it when we sinned...
 - **Look at Satan's Temptation of Jesus to prove this point**

- Matthew 4:8-10⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me."¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, " 'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.' "
- **Jesus did not tell him that Satan did not have power over those kingdoms did He?**

➤ **Satan will be cast out... Old lucifer... the Accuser of men... the usurper**

- He will lose all His power...

➤ **And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."**

- So we see that Jesus will draw all His people...When He is crucified...
 - When He says... All people, He means all of His sheep... we know this from context...
 - He will draw them all to Him...
- We know He is speaking of His death because John gives us commentary...
- **He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.**

➤ **It is through the Death and Resurrection of Jesus...**

- That Satan loses all power and control over man...
- God Defeats Satan.... By allowing rebellious men to have their way with His Son...
- And Jesus sees it with great Joy...

- **Hebrews 12:2² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

➤ **So Jesus Destroys Satan's Power by going to the Cross and Making a Sacrifice for our Sins...**

- Therefore it only makes sense that we must believe in Him
- To break Satan's power over us...
- Believe by following...

❖ **3 Mistakes of the Crowd (Do you make these mistakes?)**

➤ **1 They didn't recognize the voice of God**

- **The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."**
 - They were so out of fellowship with God that they did not hear Him when He spoke...

➤ **2. They misunderstood the Word...(they took part but ignored the rest.)**

- **So the crowd answered him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up?"**
 - They only knew part of the word...

➤ **3 . They did not believe in the light while He was there**

- **Who is this Son of Man?"**

➤ **DON'T MAKE THESE MISTAKES**

❖ **Believe in the Light**

- **So Jesus said to them, "The light is among you for a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you. The one who walks in the darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."**

➤ **To the crowd:**

- I will be with you only for a little longer... at this point only 5 or 6 days

➤ **Walk while you have the light...**

- Meaning... walk to the light, in the light, come to the light

➤ **If you do not... The darkness will overtake you..**

➤ **The one who walks in darkness**

- Does not know where He is going...
 - He is blind and unaware of his sad state before God...
- While you have the light...
 - Believe in the light
 - He is here now... You have him shining... He is telling you the truth... all you have to do is believe... While He is here...
- If you believe
 - You may become Sons of Light...
 - So... that is the promise... He will make you a Son of God...
 - John 1:12 ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God
- All still true Today...
 - This message Jesus Gave them then, is still true today...
 - The light is with even you only a little while if you will not believe...
 - Believe now unless the darkness overtake you!

❖ Invitation

- God loves man in a unique way...
 - Jesus does not die for the angels... or animals...
 - But for men...
- Look at the truth of who He is...
 - Repent of your rebellion and believe in Him and Follow Him