

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”
- John 12:23

I. THE WORLD GOING AFTER JESUS

- As the Pharisees lamented in verse 19, now Greeks seek Jesus in the last week of his life. This Jew is now the light of the world (Gen. 12:1-3; Isa. 42:6; John 8:12).

II. THE HOUR HAS COME

- Jesus knows he was born to die. Now “the hour” has come. Where God provided a ram for Isaac, Jesus must die alone (Gen. 22:13-14; Mark 10:32-34).
- In the enigmatic and counter intuitive economy of God’s kingdom:
 1. Intentional death brings abundance.
 2. To love life is to lose it.
 3. To hate life is to keep it eternally.
 4. To follow is to serve.
 5. Servants abide where Jesus abides.
 6. Honor from God accompanies servanthood.
 7. A triumph for Satan was his greatest loss, and death is glory to Christ.
- God’s command for Abraham to sacrifice his son, his only son, whom he loved, was also enigmatic and counter intuitive (Gen. 22:2).

III. A TROUBLED SOUL

- Jesus did not invite death in, but he did submit to his Father’s will. Doing so troubled his soul, but did not lead him to disobedience (John 6:38, 10:18).
- In glorifying the Father, Jesus was himself glorified.

IV. A TRIUMPH

- Jesus’ death was a judgment on sin, death, and Satan. In his being lifted up, he drew all humankind to himself (Num. 21:4-9; John 3:14-15; 12:31-32).

KNOW: God could have saved Jesus as he saved Isaac, but he did not. Jesus came to die, and when the hour of that death arrived, he remained faithful to the task. Thus, his name is glorified above all names, and your life can be redeemed.

DO: Accept the willing sacrifice of Jesus for your life. Step into the enigmatic and counter cultural world of God's kingdom.

Suggested Reading:

The Cross of Christ by John Stott
(Available in the LifePoint Adult Library)

For Children:

Darkest Night, Brightest Day by Mary Machowski
(Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

The True King by Nancy Guthrie
(Available in the LifePoint Kid's Library)

Next Week's Preaching Text: Genesis 50:15-26

**Questions/Discovery Points for
Life Groups/Families**

Please Read John 12:20-33

1. Why does John tell this short story of Greeks wanting to meet Jesus? What's the point?
2. We spoke of some "counter intuitive" aspects of living for Jesus. What are some of things that "just don't seem to add up" when it comes to following Christ, and yet remain true nevertheless?
3. Why was Jesus' soul troubled? What did he do about it?
4. How did death on a cross glorify Jesus?
5. What did that death do "for all people"?
6. What has Jesus' death and resurrection done for your life?