

Jesus' Glory Sermon II - Its Triumph

(A Study of the Gospel of John; Message #49)

John 12:27-36

A. Jesus opened his “Glory Sermon” focused on the Singular Glory of his death

1. We noted, paradoxically, Jesus’ glorification is his impending crucifixion
2. We noted the Christian is also called to live the “crucified life”

THE DOUBLE GLORY OF GOD - JESUS’ COMING AND GOING (12:27-30)

A. 12:27 - “*Father, save me from this hour.*” This is Jesus’ Johannine Gethsemane

1. To pray for his rescue would be to reject the basic reason for his coming
2. It is worth noting that Jesus turns to his Father and not to the problem...

B. 12:28a - “*Father, glorify your name*” matches the first petition of Lord’s Prayer

C. 12:28b - “*A voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again”*”

1. In the Synoptics, God spoke directly and audibly to Jesus at his baptism
2. In the Synoptics, God spoke directly and audibly at the transfiguration
3. The Father wants his listening Church and world to know about Jesus

D. In 12:29, the crowd heard it and reacts to the heavenly voice:

1. Some, like the Sadducees, define it naturalistically; it must be “lightening!”
2. Others, like the Pharisees, define it supernaturally; they believe in “angels”
3. Both miss - our assumptions/beliefs define and impact our reality

E. So how does this “*word from God*” actually benefit (serve) us?

1. It teaches us God will be glorified as we embrace 1) Jesus’ ministry and
2) Jesus’ death and resurrection
2. It reminds us of the two ways that God is glorified. This is no small lesson.

THE TRIPLE GLORY OF JESUS VICTORY (12:31-33)

A. (First) 12:31a - “*Now is the time for judgment on this world*” (World Judgment)

B. (Second) 12:31b - “*The prince of this world will be driven out*” (Satan’s Eviction)

“Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony...” (Revelation 12:10-11)

“What is your only comfort in life and in death? That I belong - body and soul, in life and in death - not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil...” (Heidelberg Catechism. Q/A 1)

1. He will be shoved out and no longer be a main reality in believer’s lives

2. The devil’s now abridged title (“*ruler of this world*”) tells his loss

C. (Third) 12:32 - “*When I’m lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself*” (Cross Magnetism)

1. Jesus’ hoisting is the greatest magnetic force on earth

“Look, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

“Father, forgive them [all] for they don’t know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34)

2. This “drawing” encourages us as we wonder about Christ’s finished work

3. Our mission mandate is clear: “*the harvest will be huge, but there are very few workers (Church); so pray the Lord of the Harvest will push out workers into his harvest*” (Matthew 9:38)

THE FOURFOLD GLORY OF JESUS LIGHT (12:34-36)

A. In saying he would be “Lifted up”, the crowd heard, “He’ll be taken away”

1. Jesus, as we know, was referring to the crucifixion
2. If the knew, the crowd would have asked: “*How do Messiah and crucifixion go together?*”

B. (First) Note the Light’s Limited Time (12:35a)

C. (Second) Note the Light’s Limitless Presence (12:35b)

1. “*After I have departed, keep on walking so you continue to have light*”
2. The darkness can often help us to see the light
3. This light has an exclusive presence - it is found in Jesus alone

D. (Third) Note the Light’s Precise Warning (12:35c)

E. (Fourth) Note the Light’s Passionate Invitation (12:36)

1. We don’t become Children of God by hustle, by being good, by working hard...
2. We become Children of the Light by believing in the Light - Jesus Christ
3. This is Jesus’ last appeal to Israel and the world to believe in Jesus
4. Please believe in the light so you may become Children of the Light
 - a. God’s first Creation Command, “*Let there be light*” (Genesis 1:3) is now the Re-creation Invitation: “*Let there be believing in the Light!*”
 - b. All real (eternal) life depends on this command and its reception