

**“Who is Jesus?”: The Son of Man  
John 12:27-36**

**Introduction:**

- Just after the Triumphal Entry
- Read **John 12:20-26**

**The Purpose of the Son of Man (vv.27-28)**

- A) Single-minded purpose (v.27)
- a. His troubled soul
    - i. In anticipation of the His sufferings
    - ii. Particularly outlined here (ref.v.33 – means of glorification demands that He be condemned)
  - b. There is no other option because the means glorify the Father is the cross (emphasis is on the prayer for the father to be glorified)
  - c. There is no separation of wills
    - i. Gethsemane (Mark 14:36)
    - ii. The nature of the God-Man
    - iii. **John 5:30**, “I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.”
- B) His purpose is His passion and His will (v.28)
- a. Christ glorifies the Father
  - b. The Father glorifies the Son, glorifying the Father
  - c. The will of Christ is the will of the Father

**The Witness of the Son of Man (vv.29-33)**

- A) Audible Witness to Purpose (vv.29-30)
- a. Words are powerful
  - b. Indiscernible (Thundered / Angel spoken)
  - c. For their sake?
  - d. Pay attention (similar to general vs. special revelation?)
- B) Explanation of the means of Purpose (vv.31-33)

- a. Glorified in Judgment (v.31)
- i. **John 12:47-48** (read)
  - ii. **John 3:17-21**, “**17** For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. **18** Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. **19** And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. **20** For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. **21** But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.” (SEPARATION)
  - iii. The world judged (presence of the Greeks)
  - iv. Christ condemned (the great SEPARATION begins here)
  - v. **Hymn**, “Hallelujah, What a Savior”,  
*Man of Sorrows! what a name  
For the Son of God, who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

***Bearing shame and scoffing rude,  
In my place condemned He stood;  
Sealed my pardon with His blood.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!***

*Guilty, vile, and helpless we;  
Spotless Lamb of God was He;  
“Full atonement!” can it be?  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

*Lifted up was He to die;  
“It is finished!” was His cry;  
Now in Heav’n exalted high.  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

*When He comes, our glorious King,*

*All His ransomed home to bring,  
Then anew His song we'll sing:  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!*

- vi. Believer free from condemnation (**Rom.8:1**)
- b. Glorified in Crushing Satan (**v.31**)
  - i. **John 14:30; 16:11** (ref. "ruler of this world")
  - ii. **Revelation 12:10-12**, "**10** And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. **11** And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death. **12** Therefore, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to you, O earth and sea, for the devil has come down to you in great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!"
  - iii. Satan's defeat is a process with his essential dominion broken at the cross (**Col.2:15**) and assured on a day to come (**Rev.20:10**).
- c. Glorified in Christ's Death (**v.32**)
  - i. The cross as exaltation
  - ii. **Isaiah 52:13** – ambiguous verb to connote the "lifted up" refers both to his cross and eventual glorification, but as we stated last week and earlier, the means to being glorified is the cross
- d. Results of Glorification (**v.32**)
  - i. The people drawn to Him ("the world" – the presence of the Greeks, again)
    - 1. **Draw ("elkuso")** – Literally to unsheath; to drag against one's will; metaphorically to inwardly compel
    - 2. **Chrysostom** (early church father, ministered in late 4<sup>th</sup> century) says that Christ used the universal term, *all*, because the Church was to be gathered equally from among Gentiles and Jews.
    - 3. **John 10:16**, "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring

*them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."*

- ii. People are drawn to Glorify – can you imagine this glorifying process only to lead to a man-glorifying end?
- iii. We Read Revelation wrongly – The Cross is the center of future events. It is the most significant event to point to the end of all things. I believe there is still much to occur, but we diminish the cross too often in our view of Christ's return. Much of the book of Revelation has already occurred. In fact, I charge you to lose your timelines and your fascinations with puzzles (regarding Revelation) and take Christ's charge in these last few verses to be a cross-centered disciple.
- e. Revealed the kind of Death He'd die (**v.33**)

### The Charge of the Son of Man (vv.34-36)

- A) Clarification of the nature of the Messiah (**vv.34-35**)
  - a. Christ and Law
  - b. Messianic Purpose
  - c. Identifying the Son of Man
    - i. Messianic reference
    - ii. Jews believed him to be eternal
    - iii. The God-Man is vital for our understanding of the nature of His eternal kingdom
- B) Exhortation to believe and live (**v.36**)
  - a. The Son of Man as light (John 1)
  - b. Belief is essential
    - i. The Choice
    - ii. The Adoption
  - iii. A Follower Follows (**1 John 1:5-7**, "**5** This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. **6** If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

*7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”)*

- c. He removes Himself – He will not abide in their presence much longer

C) **C.S. Lewis** (*“The Silver Chair”*)

When Jill first arrives in Narnia, she is very thirsty. She came to a stream. Here’s where Lewis begins, “She stood there as still as if she had been turned to stone, with her mouth wide open. And she had very good reason; just on this side of the stream lay the lion.

*“If you’re thirsty, you may drink.”*

*“Are you not thirsty?” said the Lion.*

*“I’m dying of thirst,” said Jill.*

*“Then drink,” said the Lion*

*“May I – could I – would you mind going away while I do?” said Jill.... “Will you promise not to do anything to me, if I do come?”*

*“I make no promise,” said the Lion.*

*“Do you eat girls?” she said.*

*“I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms,” said the Lion. It didn’t say this as if it were boasting, nor as if it were sorry, nor as if it were angry. It just said it.*

*“I daren’t come and drink,” said Jill.*

*“Then you will die of thirst,” said the Lion.*

*“Oh dear!...I suppose I must go and look for another stream then.”*

*“There is no other stream,” said the Lion.*

*It never occurred to Jill to disbelieve the Lion-no one who had seen his stern face could do that – and her mind suddenly made itself up. It was the worst thing she had ever had to do, but she went forward to the stream, knelt down, and began scooping up water in her hand. It was the coldest, most refreshing water she had ever tasted. You didn’t need to drink much of it, for it quenched your thirst at once.*

*“Come here,” said the Lion. And she had to.*

Then the Lion asked Jill about the boy she was with and she explained he had fallen off a cliff trying to save her. The

Lion asked why she almost fell and she said she was showing off...

*The Lion said, “That is a very good answer, Human Child. Do so no more.”*

**Application**

- Will you choose to follow the Christ who took upon Himself the condemnation of sin on the cross?
- Will you follow the Christ who says you must die to self and love of this world in order to know Him?
- Christian, is your passion the same as Christ’s purpose, to glorify the Father? If so, die again and again to this world and her passions, for you cannot have dual passions, He demands all of you! Christ had no sin and still casts off all restraint and boldly goes forth. What do you need to cast off today to glorify Him?