

The Hour Has Come!
John 12:20-36

Introduction

The context is the resurrection of Lazarus and the anointing of Jesus by Mary. This section begins; (12:1) “6 days before the Passover”. The “next day” (12:12) moves the story line and now we find that there were a special group of people who, going to worship in the court of the gentiles “wished to see Jesus” (12:20-21). This section (:20-50) contains a toggling back and forth between people both seeking & asking, and Jesus responding & teaching. The themes involved are the death and glory of the Jesus (:23) who is simply doing what His Father has commanded (:50) Punctuated between the asking and the teaching we see how people respond; Some do not believe (:37) and some do believe. (:42)

I. The Hour of Glorification :20-36

A. The People Seek :20-22

The Pharisees lament that the world is going after Jesus (12:19)

Gentiles/Greeks are seeking Him.

Gentile God seekers and worshipers (Acts 10:2, 22 Cornelius, 17:4) Other sheep
Jo 10:16, 11:52

They come to Philip? He tells Andrew? (Jews w/ Greek names)

B. The Lord Speaks :23-36

1. The Prophecy :23 The Hour has come. (NB :23-28 He is talking to the two disciples not the crowd. Crowd in :29, 34)

Not the time 2:4, 7:30, 8:20 Now it is time 12:27, 13:1, 16:32, 17:1

Son of man to be glorified 12:23, 1:51, 3:14, 7:39 8:28, 12:16 12:32-34

Isa 53:13 ‘exalted’ is Gk “glorified” doxa (More on glory issue in Jo 16-17)

Son of man:23,34 The divine being that ties heaven & earth together Dan 7:13

2. The Parable :24

Amen Amen (the formula used 17 times so far in John)

True life comes from or through death (Lazarus dead and now alive. Death does not stop eternal life, it is the precursor to obtaining it)

(See I Cor. 15:36-37 Die - live)

3. The Principle :25

Paradoxical axiom- If Save life (soul) you lose it- lose life (soul) you save it

Lose life in this this world you save it for the world of the future (Matt 10, 16)

Jesus laid down His life for the sheep (10:15b-16)

4. The Practical Application for the Disciples :26

If you serve Jesus it will cost you but the Father will doxa honor you as the Father honors the Son. (Honor John 5:23, 8:49)(Matt 16:26 What profit is it.)
Honor Τιμη :26 of Father or Approval δοξα of man 12:43

5. The Practical Implication for Jesus :27-28a

-The Fortitude of Jesus :27

This seems to be John's selection of the Jesus tradition instead of sighting the Prayer in Gethsemane ("Not my will but thy will be done". Mt 26:39, Mk 14:35-36 LK. 22:41-42)

-The Focus of Jesus :28a

(See Jesus call to the "Father" with Lazarus. 11:41 Also 17:1,5,11,21,24,25)
"Glory" (16:14, 17:1-5, 10, 22, 24)

-The Father's Affirmation :28b

Other times: Baptism Matt 3:17 and Transfiguration Matt. 17:5

In OT the Voice from heaven I Sam. 3:4, 6:8, I Kings 19:13 Dan. 4:31-32

6. The People Respond :29 (Crowd :34)

Natural Power- thunder: Ex 19:16,19 I Sam.12:18, 2 Sam 22:14, Job 37:5

Supernatural Power- Angles: Hagar, Gen 21:17, Abe 22:11 Moses Acts 7:38

7. The Pronouncement of Jesus :30-36

a. The Mandate :30-31 (Notice the double "Now...Now" in :31)

Jesus says who this voice is for- The crowd not for the Christ. 11:42

Judgment on the world and its leader 9:39 (Future reality Col 2:15)

The god of this world will be judged Jo 14:30 16:11

No exorcisms in John only the exorcism of the father of All demons-Satan

Satan's ruler-ship 2 Cor. 4:4, Eph. 6:12. He is working on Judas 13:2, 27

History is His Story of reclaiming the World of the lost paradise of Gen.

The Pharisees are wrong in thinking the world is going after him :19

The world has gone after the devil.

This is why Jesus told his disciples that they need to hate the world 12:25!

(Pharisees have the devil as their father 8:44)

b. The Means :32-33

1. All men? (10:16, 11:51-52) All types (Greeks) or all and every man
universally? All men are savable John 3:16 Belief is essential

- 12:37,42. There was a field white unto harvest already 4:36. Maybe these Greeks are also potential field? We don't hear of them again.
2. "Draws" ἐλκυσω see 6:44 God draws people to Himself so they then believe and then they are born again (Jo 3:3)- regenerated (Titus 3:5)
 3. Lifted up- death on cross 3:15, 8;28 12:33 *Col 2:13-15
Jesus will not die by falling to the ground (:24-25) but by being lifted up on the cross.
If He is lifted up He will lift up man in the resurrection 5:28-29
- c. The Man :34 (Jesus vs Crowd)
1. The Crowd- Confused :34
The Law = represents all of OT not only Moses
The son of man- he is supposed to stay but you are leaving? *2 Sam. 7:13 Ps 61:6-7,35-37, *89:37 *Isa 9:7 Ezk 37:25 *Lk 1:33
Who is the son of man? Dan 7:13 The crowd thought the messiah would come and live forever over the Romans. Jesus is talking about dying... But He is also talking about living forever- Don't ever forget Lazarus.---Suffering first then Glory forever! (I Peter 1:11)
 2. The Christ- Clear :35-36
 - a. "In a little while.." Similar to Jo 16:16-19 also 7:33
Jesus does not identify Himself as "Son of Man" but light
 - b. JC is the light. 1:4, 7, 8, 3:19, 8:12, 9:4-5, 11:10
 - c. Time is short. The cross/ lifted up- the death and darkness over the earth- But then 3 days later...Light
 - d. Believe in the Light. (Isa 50:10 Walk in darkness w/o the light)
 - e. Become sons of the light
 - f. JC hid himself- :36 The elusive Christ 7:10, 30,44, 8:20
Things will go dark as the light is hidden!

Conclusion

Jesus, the son of man has come to glorify His Father and offer His life to redeem man from sin and offer resurrection to eternal life. The raising of Lazarus from the dead, the anointing by Mary and the triumphal entry with the proclamation of Hosanna by the people attests to His person and power. People need to decide if they will believe that Jesus is the light. Those that do will glorify the Father as Jesus glorifies the Father.