



Lesson 56 – In the Outer Court

Based on John 12:20-42.

- 1) What was one of the last things for Jesus to do before the Last Supper and Passover?
John 12:20-22 And there were certain _____ among them that came up to worship at the feast: The same came therefore to Philip, which was of Bethsaida of Galilee, and desired him, saying, Sir, we would see _____. Philip cometh and telleth Andrew: and again Andrew and Philip tell Jesus.

Christ was approaching the consummation of His work. The great event which concerned not only the Jewish nation, but the whole world, was about to take place. When Christ heard the eager request, "**We would see Jesus**," echoing the hungering cry of the world, His countenance lighted up.

- 2) What did Jesus tell them?
John 12:23 And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be _____.

In the request of the Greeks, He saw an earnest of the results of His great sacrifice. These men came from the West to find the Saviour at the close of His life, as the wise men had come from the East at the beginning. At the time of Christ's birth, the Jewish people were so engrossed with their own ambitious plans that they knew not of His advent. The magi from a heathen land came to the manger with their gifts, to worship the Saviour. So, these Greeks, representing the nations, tribes, and peoples of the world, came to see Jesus. So, the people of all lands and all ages would be drawn by the Saviour's cross.

- 3) What prophecy was fulfilled with their visit?
Matthew 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the _____ of _____.

Jesus was in that part of the temple from which all except Jews were excluded, but He went out to the Greeks in the outer court and had a personal interview with them.

The Greeks had heard of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Some supposed, and had circulated the report, that He had driven the priests and rulers from the temple, and that He was to take possession of David's throne, and reign as king of Israel. The Greeks longed to know the truth in regard to His mission.

- 4) What words of John the Baptist resounded in their hearts?
John 1:29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the _____ of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

In these strangers He saw the pledge of a great harvest, when the partition wall between Jew and Gentile should be broken down, and all nations, tongues, and peoples should hear the message of salvation.

- 5) Jesus said "The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified." What did He mean?
John 12:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much _____.

The hour of Christ's glorification had come. He was standing in the shadow of the cross, and the inquiry of the Greeks showed Him that the sacrifice He was about to make would bring many sons and daughters to God. He knew that the Greeks would soon see Him in a position they did not then dream of. They would see Him placed beside Barabbas, a robber and murderer, who would be chosen for release before the Son of God. They would hear the people, inspired by the priests and rulers, making their choice. And to the question, "**What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ?**"

- 6) What would they hear Pilate say?
Matthew 27:22 Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be _____.



By making this propitiation for the sins of men, Christ knew that His kingdom would be perfected and would extend throughout the world. He would work as the Restorer, and His Spirit would prevail.

The way in which this glorification must take place was never absent from Christ's mind. The gathering in of the Gentiles was to follow His approaching death. Only by His death could the world be saved. Like a grain of wheat, the Son of man must be cast into the ground and die and be buried out of sight; but He was to live again.

7) What did He follow that with?

John 12:25 He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto _____.

The life must be cast into the furrow of the world's need. Self-love, self-interest, must perish. And the law of self-sacrifice is the law of self-preservation. The husbandman preserves his grain by casting it away. So, in human life. To give is to live. The life that will be preserved is the life that is freely given in service to God and man. Those who for Christ's sake sacrifice their life in this world will keep it unto life eternal.

8) What did Jesus tell them next?

John 12:26 If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve _____, him will my _____ honour.

It was the joy of Christ in His humiliation and pain that His disciples should be glorified with Him. They are the fruit of His self-sacrifice. The outworking in them of His own character and spirit is His reward and will be His joy throughout eternity. This joy they share with Him as the fruit of their labor and sacrifice is seen in other hearts and lives. They are workers together with Christ, and the Father will honor them as He honors His Son.

9) A cloud of gloom seemed to enshroud Jesus. What did He say?

John 12:27 Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this _____: but for this cause came I unto this hour.

The message of the Greeks, foreshadowing as it did the gathering in of the Gentiles, brought to the mind of Jesus His entire mission. The work of redemption passed before Him, from the time when in heaven the plan was laid, to the death that was now so near at hand. A mysterious cloud seemed to enshroud the Son of God. Its gloom was felt by those near Him.

In anticipation Christ was already drinking the cup of bitterness. His humanity shrank from the hour of abandonment, when to all appearance He would be deserted even by God, when all would see Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. He shrank from public exposure, from being treated as the worst of criminals, from a shameful and dishonored death. A foreboding of His conflict with the powers of darkness, a sense of the awful burden of human transgression, and the Father's wrath because of sin caused the spirit of Jesus to faint, and the pallor of death to overspread His countenance.

10) What did Jesus ask of His Father?

12:28 Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a _____ from _____, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

Only thus could man be redeemed, and God be glorified. Jesus consented to the agony; He accepted the sacrifice. The Majesty of heaven consented to suffer as the Sin Bearer.

Christ's whole life, from the manger to the time when these words were spoken, had glorified God; and in the coming trial His divine-human sufferings would indeed glorify His Father's name.

11) What were the bystanders saying?

John 12:29 The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it _____: others said, An angel spake to him.



As the voice was heard, a light darted from the cloud, and encircled Christ, as if the arms of Infinite Power were thrown about Him like a wall of fire. The people beheld this scene with terror and amazement. No one dared to speak. With silent lips and bated breath all stood with eyes fixed upon Jesus. The testimony of the Father having been given, the cloud lifted and scattered in the heavens.

The inquiring Greeks saw the cloud, heard the voice, comprehended its meaning, and discerned Christ; indeed, to them He was revealed as the Sent of God.

12) What did Jesus tell the onlookers about what they had beheld?

John 12:30-31 Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for _____ sakes. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the _____ of this world be cast out.

The voice of God had been heard at the baptism of Jesus at the beginning of His ministry, and again at His transfiguration on the mount. Now at the close of His ministry it was heard for the third time, by a larger number of people, and under peculiar circumstances. Jesus had just spoken the most solemn truth regarding the condition of the Jews. He had made His last appeal and pronounced their doom. Now God again set His seal to the mission of His Son.

13) What did Jesus finish with?

John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will _____ all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

This is the crisis of the world. If I become the propitiation for the sins of men, the world will be lighted up. Satan's hold upon the souls of men will be broken. The defaced image of God will be restored in humanity, and a family of believing saints will finally inherit the heavenly home.

14) What did the onlooking crowd say to Jesus?

John 12:34 The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this _____ of _____?

15) How did Jesus reply?

John 12:35-36 Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. _____ while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. While ye have light, _____ in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

16) What did John tell us about this?

John 12:37 But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed _____ on him:

17) What question had they asked Him previously?

John 6:30 They said therefore unto him, What _____ shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work?

Innumerable signs had been given; but they had closed their eyes and hardened their hearts. Now that the Father Himself had spoken, and they could ask for no further sign, they still refused to believe.

18) What did John say about it?

John 12:42-43 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many _____ on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the _____ of men more than the praise of God.

To save themselves from reproach and shame, they denied Christ, and rejected the offer of eternal life. And how many through all the centuries since have been doing the same thing.



19) What are the Words of Life that Jesus declared?

John 12:47-48 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that _____ me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall _____ him in the last day.

20) What was the relationship between Jesus and the Father?

John 12:49-50 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his _____ is life _____: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

Can you see Jesus saw you in His plans?

Would you like to be among the redeemed?

When is the time to proclaim Him King?

JOHN 12:32

“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all *men* unto me.”