

ALIVE #1

John 12:20-33

03/25/2018
Sunday a.m.

SLIDE 1 – ALIVE – AN EASTER SERIES

SLIDE 2 – PALM SUNDAY

- Sunday of remembrance – Triumphal Entry of Christ
 - Foretold in Zechariah – the Christ/Messiah
 - Fanfare, palm branches, on a donkey colt
 - “Hosanna, to the Son of David” – “God save us Messiah!”

SLIDES 3-10 – JOHN 12:20-33

SLIDE 11 – GOSPEL: CONTEXT & DETAILS

- Daniel’s encouragement last week – to understand the Gospels better
- Passover Week: Jerusalem filled w/Jews from all over the world
- Gathered to celebrate God’s deliverance of Israel from slavery/bondage
- Jesus’ popularity at an all time high
 - Post-Lazarus resurrection: Religious leaders despair: “Whole world has gone after Him”

SLIDE 12 – THE HOUR HAS COME

- Greeks (God-fearers) hear of Jesus & want to see Him –
 - Primary call of Christ was to the Jews... now the Gentiles want Him?
- **SIGN:** This is the PRIME TIME for Jesus to ascend the throne (Messiah King)
 - People have been attempting to make Him king for years
- Jesus hears this, & responds: “*the hour has come for the SOM to be glorified.*”
 - This is the moment I/we’ve been waiting for
 - God’s purposes in bringing glory to Son *look different* than ours
 - Kingdom of God is *NOT of this world* – not political, economic, military
- The HOUR HAS COME... but... what are the disciples thinking?
 - “Jesus is going to assume the throne, overthrow Romans, Elevate us – He said we’d rule with Him...” **Great expectations: Human vs. KWAM**

SLIDE 13 – DEATH COMES FIRST

- Using familiar agrarian analogies – communicating truth in picture stories
 - “grain of wheat has to die to bear fruit” – understand the *planting*
 - by itself, nothing; if it ‘dies’, it bears much fruit
 - Whoever loves life, loses it; whoever hates life in this world – eternal life
 - Extreme language – love/hate about prioritizing KWAM over this world
 - Loving Jesus = following Jesus = doing what He says
 - → **Luke 9:23-25** – *lay aside selfish ambition, take up cross, follow*
 - Father will honor those who follow/serve Jesus
- Flies in the face of what ALL are expecting of Messiah – KOG
- What do you want me to do? Ask Father to save Me from this?
 - No – THIS is WHY I came

SLIDE 14 – JOHN 12:31

SLIDE 15 – IT'S TIME

- Jesus' declaration – NOW is the judgment of the world
- NOW the ruler of this world cast out – prince of this world – **Ephesians 2**
 - Dominion of world – Adam & Eve's disobedience gave it to enemy –
 - Jesus' submission to God's plan → getting it back
 - God's purpose & redemption to come through death/laying down life

SLIDE 16 – JOHN 12:32,33

SLIDE 17 – JESUS – LIFTED UP

- More context & details – God's OT deliverance – **Numbers 21**
 - Plague: fiery snakes – no cure/healing – bronze serpent, **lifted up** on tree
 - All who **look at** the serpent will be healed/saved
- Jesus identifies w/point of healing in crucifixion – 'lifted up on tree' – how He'll die
 - During the Passover – as the Passover Lamb
 - Salvation of God has a familiar sound – God's love song to Israel: It's ME!

SLIDE 18 – DEATH COMES FIRST

SLIDE 19 – FROM DEATH TO LIFE

- Paradox of KWAM – ***lose life, save it; hate life here, eternal life***
- God's way is NOT an "I take-charge, lead the way" plan –
 - It's an "I surrender control, submit/die to self, THEN embrace Christ's purposes & plans for me"
- Easter-season – Christ's great sacrifice –
 - Pronouncing judgment on world, end of dominion of enemy
 - Upside-down & turned around

SLIDE 20 – WHAT AM I DOING WITH THIS?

- What/where am I attempting to make changes in me in my own strength/using my own self-control?
 - Vs. transformation by the Holy Spirit – in response to **Luke 9:23-25**
- Where is God calling me to lay aside selfish ambition, take up cross & follow?
 - Laying aside my agenda – my expectations on:
 - WHAT God is supposed to do?
 - HOW God is supposed to do it?
- What do I need to die to?

SLIDE 21 – PRAYER IS AVAILABLE