

The Point of Life

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley

Sunday, September 8, 2024

John 12:31–32 “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.”

Jesus was lifted up on a cross and crucified. From the cross Jesus cried, “It is finished,” then He bowed His head and gave up His spirit. (Jn. 19:30)

His death on the cross was the “Now” Jesus had spoken of when He said, “Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.” The now is decisive; it speaks to a concise point in time - the day of the cross of Christ. **History before the cross looked forward to this time; history since the cross looks back to this time.**

“Now judgment is upon this world.” This judgment, spiritually speaking, brings us all to the cross. It brings us all to a point of decision to reject Christ or receive to Christ. “If I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself,” Jesus.

When asked about the signs of the end times Jesus said, “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:14

1 Corinthians 1:18 (NIV) For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (Being saved – an enduring power)

In Christ Alone! “All men to Me.”

Truly the cross of Christ is the Point of Life for us all!

“For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified,”
Paul - 1 Corinthians 2:2.

John 14:6 Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father but through Me.

Acts 4:12 There is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven
that has been given among men by which we must be saved.

John 1:12 As many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God!

1 John 5:12 He who has the Son has the life;
he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

John 4:10 (NLT) Jesus replied, “If you only knew the gift God has for you
and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.”

Christ Unknown.

There is a difference in knowing of Christ and knowing Him as one’s personal Lord and Savior. Jesus spoke of a time when the master of the house would rise up and shut the door (the door to the eternal

kingdom of God). Then all who had heard of Him but rejected Him (or ignored Him) would begin to beat on that door crying out to be saved, but He will say to them, *“I never knew you.”* In the revelation to John, we get a glimpse into a coming day of judgment – the Great White Throne Judgment.

Revelation 20:12, 15

12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. **15** And if anyone’s name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Speaking of His crucifixion, Jesus said, **“Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.”** John 12:31.

The ruler of this world, is the great thief who comes to steal, kill, and destroy. What has he taken from you? How has sin affected your life? Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil!

Jesus is The Point of Life!

There is only one way to save yourself from the enemy, from sin, and from eternal damnation. Whosoever will believe in Him and receive Him as the Lord of their life will be saved!

Christ’s Appeal

2 Corinthians 5:20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; **we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.**

Come as you are! “Just as I am without one plea, but that His blood was shed for me, and that Thou bid’st me come to Thee, oh, Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Matthew 11:28 “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden.”

All who are fighting and struggling with sin – wearied from the battle!
Bring all your sins, failures, and guilt; bring your addictions, vices, and weaknesses; bring your shame, reproach, and sinful stains. All of these things belong to the darkness and death.

Come to the Point of Life! Come to the cross where Christ was lifted up for all your sin!
The only way to approach God for His mercy and grace, is through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:10 For with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

Choose you on this day who you will serve!
Today, if you hear His voice, please do not harden your heart!
This is your deciding moment! Life is offered to you today!