

The Hour has Come (All Systems Go)

John 12:12-26

vs. 12, large crowd

vs. 13, They went out to meet him.

Hosanna = save now

Psalm 118:25-26 Lord, save us! Lord, please grant us success!

26 He who comes in the name of the Lord is blessed. From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout in triumph, Daughter Jerusalem! Look, your King is coming to you; he is righteous and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

What were the people expecting?

- Jesus would not ride into Jerusalem on a war-horse.
- Jesus would be sitting on a donkey (military conquest was not the goal. Jesus is the prince of peace).

Even in the world of Zechariah Messiahship was linked to peaceful and non-political ideals.

->Jesus was not then and is not now the poster child for your political agenda!<-

John had in mind the fullness of the passage in **Zechariah 9**.

1. I will take away the chariots and the war-horses (**vs. 10**). The gentle king will bring an end to war.
2. Peace will be proclaimed to the nations. His rule will be to the ends of the earth.
3. Because of the blood of my covenant with you, the prisoners will be set free (**vs. 11**). The gentle king will lay down his life for the sheep. The sheep will be saved.

vs. 16, Hind sight is 20/20.

The Holy Spirit brings clarity!

14:26 But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you.

16:12-15 "I still have many things to tell you, but you can't bear them now. **13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. For he will not speak on his own, but he will speak whatever he hears. He will also declare to you what is to come. **14** He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. **15** Everything the Father has is mine. This is why I told you that he takes from what is mine and will declare it to you.

Question: How are you listening to the Holy Spirit in your life? As a result are you discovering more clarity? Why or why not?

vs. 19, The world has gone after him.

- Pharisees - world (everyone in Jerusalem)
- John - uses kosmos referring to people everywhere (all nations).

Watch the story that John is telling unfold.

- Jesus has come into the world.
- For God so loved the world (3:16).
- Jesus has other sheep to find and rescue as well as the lost sheep of Israel (10:16).
- Jesus' death will bring deliverance not only to a nation but to the scattered children of God (11:52).

vs. 20, Greeks have come to worship at the festival.

1. The nations are coming.
2. The Pharisees worst fears are coming true. Jesus' influence is great!

vs. 23, For Jesus this request is a signal that the hour has in fact arrived.

2:4, "My hour has not yet come." (Said at Mary's request to do something about the wine at the wedding). 7:30 and 8:20 are the next two.

12:23 is the fourth reference. The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Moving forward in John's gospel we are in "the hour".

12:27, What should I say - Father, save me from this hour? But that is why I came to this hour.

13:1, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world to the Father.

16:32, Indeed an hour is coming, and has come, when each of you will be scattered to his now home, and you will leave me alone.

17:1, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,"

What is happening on the grandest scale?

The gospel is on the verge of historical and theological completion.

How does humanity have a relationship with God?

How is God's steadfast love and faithfulness demonstrated?

How are the promises spoken of in Genesis going to be fulfilled?

How will both Jew and Gentile be drawn together in a new covenant community?

Isaiah 52:13 See, my servant will be successful; he will be raised and lifted up and greatly exalted.

vs. 24, The grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies. It's death is what produces much fruit.

Jesus voluntarily looks death in the face and defeats it.

Salvation is the result for all nations.

John will tell us how Jesus moves forward with no holding back.

Through symbolic action (chapter 13).

Powerful teaching (chapters 14-17).

Prayer (chapter 17).

vs. 26,

Jesus' life was the pattern for all who would be his servants:

- To glorify his Father's name meant more to Jesus than life itself.
- God was glorified in the hour of Jesus' death because then the grace of God was most clearly seen.
- The glory of God is his character, and he is glorified when his character is revealed.

Colin G. Kruse, John: An Introduction and Commentary, vol. 4, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003), 266-267.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus.

1 Peter 2:21-25 For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. 22 He did not commit sin, **and no deceit was found in his mouth;** 23 when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. 24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wound you have been healed.** 25 For you **were like sheep going astray**, but you have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Focus on self - Or - Focus on Jesus

My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

Question: How are you following in the footsteps of Jesus? How are you finding rest, satisfaction, and wholeness as a Jesus follower? If you aren't experiencing these things what is getting in the way?