

**Pastor Jim Jackson, 3/22/26**  
***Days With Jesus, Day 38—When The Seed Dies***  
**John 12:20-36**

**The Seed will DIE for others**

Some Greeks in Jerusalem for Passover had interest in Jesus' ministry and asked Andrew and Philip to have a meeting with him. Yet instead of meeting them, Jesus explained that he will soon be dead and the time for planning and pleasantries were over. *Action begins where talk ends!* As most of Israel was agriculture, Jesus compares his life to a seed, that unless it dies it won't multiply. It is only when the seed gives up being a seed that new life comes. The seed passes its genetics to the fruit, and the fruit then participates in producing more fruit like itself (Eph. 4:24; 2 Cor. 5:17; 2 Pet. 1:4)! This 'multiplication prophecy' would soon come true, as before his death there were 11 disciples that believed, but today there are *billions. By the death of the Seed the fruit succeeds!*

**The believers must LIVE for God**

In the last public description of discipleship before his death, Jesus makes a clear statement of what a 'Christ-follower' is. Jesus contrasts the love (Gr. *phileo*, 'friendship/family affection') of living for the things of the world as hatred for him (Luke 14:25-27; Phil. 3:7, 8). *What you follow is where you will finish!* God gives all good things for our enjoyment, but they must not become a consuming passion. Jesus set an example of not striving for earthly possessions and praise but rather dying for an eternal harvest. Everyone has a Master—it's either their God or their goods. *What dominates your thinking rules and runs your life* (Matt. 6:20, 21; Col. 3:1-3)!

**The enemy will be DEFEATED forever**

The Jews had been taught that the Messiah, or 'Son of Man,' would reign forever politically. So, when Jesus talked about being 'lifted up' and dying on a cross, they were confused about how he could then be the Messiah. *Let the true teaching of God guide your life not the teachings of men* (2 Tim. 4:3). Jesus tells them to enjoy his 'light' while he's alive, as his death will be necessary to draw people to God and defeat Satan—the ruler of this world's systems. God allows Satan to temporarily influence nations and cultures, but his power has been broken through the Gospel, which points to his eventual eternal judgment (Eph. 2:1-3; Rev. 20:10). *Jesus has defeated the power of the enemy so we can live in the power of God!*