

DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

March 16 - 22, 2008

"His Hour Has Come"

John 12:12-26

THE LORD'S DAY - This week we are studying the passage of Scripture that talks about Jesus arriving at "The Hour". His hour of death, resurrection, and exaltation had always been in the future, but now He says, "It has come". Again, Jesus teaches incredible truth relating to death and the life that follows it. I trust you will understand that the King came to die that man might live. As we study this passage of Scripture this week, I pray you will be able to say with the Psalmist, "...the commandments of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes..." (**Psalm 19:8**) Please read through **John 12:12-26**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Lord Jesus, help me to understand the true significance of Your coming to earth to die so that I might live.*

MONDAY - John tells us the story of the "Triumphal Entry" in **verses 12-15**. We went over this in great detail about a month ago, but I want to go over some of the principles in this passage again. The first thing we notice is that the King was heralded with a celebratory cheer from **Psalm 118**--Hosanna (give salvation now). The people were looking for deliverance through a Savior, but as Jesus made clear in **Luke 19:41-44**, they didn't see Him for who He was--the Savior from sin. They wanted a king, a ruler, and a kingdom, but only an earthly one. That is why Jesus wept over their blindness. *He was the Messiah, the One Who Comes in the Name of the Lord.* May we see and understand who He is. Read **Matthew 13:10-17**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: *Dear Lord, there are millions who see You as being simply as a good man who did good things. Thank You for revealing to me who You really are. May I boldly proclaim these truths to this lost world.*

TUESDAY - In **verse 16** we see that even the disciples did not understand what this all meant at first. It wasn't until afterward, when Jesus was glorified and the Spirit of God illumined their hearts and minds that they fully understood these events in the light of Scripture and the plan of God. We too must understand it is by the Word of God and the Holy Spirits working in us that we can see things rightly (**John 7:39; 14:26**). →

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)	Lord's Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

W @ K L J P R Q J @ R J O U R N A L

M a t t h @ w 6: 9-13

I pray that as you read the Word of God and the Spirit of God convicts you of sin and need of change, you will turn to Him and be enlightened and established in the truth. Read **2 Corinthians 4:1-6** and **John 16:12-15**.


What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Holy Spirit, drive the truths of Your Word to my heart and change me from the inside out by convicting me of my sin and constant need of You.

WEDNESDAY - In **verses 17-19** we see that the miracle of raising Lazarus was still "big news". The people who saw it were "bearing witness", and the people who had not witnessed it were coming to see Jesus because of what they had been told. The Pharisees showed their wickedness being upset enough to say that the "whole world had gone after Jesus". We know this wasn't true; they used the phrase in a general sense to show their disgust. Are you genuinely happy when you see someone come to Christ and grow in Him? Many today are caught in the "competition of religion" and become upset when they see someone grow in Christ for it reveals their own lack of growth or even worse, their lost condition. Read Jesus' parable in **Luke 15:11-32** and notice the attitude of the older son. He represents the hypocritical religious person who stays "close to the Father" but has no sense of His own sinfulness, and therefore, no real love for the Father.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Dear Lord, help me to conquer my urges to feel contempt for those who "seem" to be blessed by You more than I am. Help me to be content with what You give or don't give to me.

THURSDAY - In **verses 20-22** we find a neat little "story within a story". The Bible tells us that while the Israelite religious leaders were desiring and planning Jesus' death there were some "Greeks" (Gentiles) who wanted to see Jesus. These Gentiles were confined to "the court of the Gentiles" which was the only part of the Temple they were allowed to be in. We know Jesus would "break down the wall of separation" and make salvation available to both Jew's and Gentiles, placing them together in one body. Notice that the two disciples, Philip and Andrew, were instrumental in bringing news to Jesus. From these verses we should learn to be thankful that whether we be Jews or Gentiles we can have peace with God and salvation through the ultimate mediator--Christ Jesus. We should also be challenged with these questions--Are we bringing people to Christ? Are we sharing the "Good News" with those who need to come to Christ? Read **Ephesians 2:14-18**, **Romans 1:16**, and **Romans 10:14-21** and thank God for the privilege, right, and delegated authority to become children of His (**John 1:12**). 

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Lord, forgive me for the times I've decided to ignore Your prompting to witness to someone. Help me learn to be unselfish and fearless when an opportunity comes to share the Gospel.

FRIDAY - In **verses 23-24** Jesus announces the way people could be brought to faith in Him. He says, "The hour has come". The time is at hand for Him to be crucified and die, and then be resurrected and glorified. Jesus gives a natural illustration of what His death would do. He says unless the grain of wheat dies there will be no harvest. The kernel is sown and dies to be planted and bring forth much fruit. Jesus' life, without death, would stand in isolation. He had to die, therein lies the power to bring a harvest of much grain and many souls would come to salvation through Him. What a beautiful picture--death is required to bring forth spiritual fruitfulness. Read **Romans 14:9** and **1 Corinthians 15:35-45** and thank God for the death of Christ which is the key to spiritual life.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Oh Lord, I thank You for laying down Your own life for mine; I realize that it is the only way for me to be able to be reconciled to You.

SATURDAY - The final two verses apply yesterday's principle to the followers of Jesus (**verses 25-26**). Not only would Jesus die to produce a harvest of souls, but He calls these souls (His followers) to follow His example. He says the man who does not die to himself, but instead loves his life, He will lose it. The person who hates his life in this world will keep it to eternal life. Jesus says if a man will follow Him, he must be willing to give everything, even his physical life if necessary. The man who loves this world, his own comforts, his own sin, and "lives it up" in this life will lose it all. This is quite a contrast. Do you live for this world and yourself? My prayer is that all who read this would truly follow Christ by dying to self. We have Jesus' guarantee that if we come to Him and are born-again, and therefore follow Him, serve Him, and prove that we love Him more than anything else, we will be honored by the Father with eternal life. Read **Matthew 10:37-39**, **Mark 8:34-37**, and **Luke 9:23-26**.

What truth(s) did I learn from God's Word today?

Suggestion for prayer: Lord Jesus, the things of this world are so tempting to my sinful flesh, please give me the strength and wisdom to know how to bring it into subjection to You so that You will be glorified through my weaknesses.