

“No Cross, No Life”

John 12:20-26

Jesus Christ speaks to the necessity of His death.

1. The Occasion: Gentiles seeking Jesus

vv. 20-23

(1) The consternation of the Pharisees

cf. v. 19 *“The whole world has gone after Him!”*

*“Now there were certain Greeks...who came
...saying, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’”*

(2) The disposition of the disciples – Hopeful ?

(3) The Interpretation of the Savior

*“The hour has come
that the Son of Man should be glorified.”*

2. The Principle of “Life out of Death” – Realized and Accomplished in Jesus Christ

(1) This Principle Illustrated in Nature (24)

- The planting of a seed

*“Most assuredly, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground
and dies, it remains alone;
but if it dies, it produces much grain.”*

- No death, no life!

- But much fruit comes by that death!

(2) The Principle Fulfilled in Jesus

- The Necessity of His Death

- The Necessary path to Glory!

- Much Fruit! Life granted to all of the redeemed! We have eternal life by Jesus’ death and resurrection.

3. The Principle of “Life out of Death” – Capsulized in True Faith

(1) A Feature of True Faith in Christ is made clear

(25)

-1- The Rejection of Christ:

*“He who loves his life will lose it,
and he who hates his life in this world
will keep it for life eternal.”*

- Involves loving, clinging to one’s life in this world.
- Involves loving that which deserves and will bring God’s judgment!

-2- True Faith in Christ:

- Involves hating one’s life in this world.
- The old life. My fallen, sin-dominated life.

(2) A Feature of Following Christ is made clear

(26a)

- A daily dying to the old ways, to the old life! *“If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me”*

- This is the path in which My Savior leads me!

(3) The Reward of Following is made clear

(26b)

- 1- If I follow Jesus Christ wherever He leads,
I have and know the blessedness of His presence and power!
“and where I am, there My servant will be also.”

-2- The honor of the Father!

“If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.”

Further Application