

Lighthouse Bible Church

February 2nd, 2014

John 12: 27 – 33

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 2: 10 - 18

‘The Purpose for Jesus coming’

Stand – Read – Pray

As we continue our study in the book of John we see in Chapter 12 that Jesus has just begun His triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem where He is being hailed by the people as the promised Messiah.

There were some Greek, Gentile converts to Judaism that heard all of this and wanted to talk with Jesus. So they ask Philip and Andrew and they presumably bring them to Jesus and then Jesus, in Verse 23, begins to tell them and those in the crowd that, as the Messiah, He must die in order to produce the fruit of eternal life.

He likened His life, death and resurrection to that of a grain of wheat that must fall to the ground and die so that it can produce much grain, or much fruit. Then He tells those who love their own life more than Him that in the end they will lose eternal life and He tells those who are willing to hate their own life, in this world, for His sake and the gospel’s will keep it to eternal life.

Then He encourages those who are willing to serve and follow Him with two promises; one, where Jesus is there His servants will be also. The other is; those servants and followers of His will eventually be honored by God the Father in heaven. And that is where we want to pick it up today in Verse 27.

Verse 27: now My soul is troubled and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour? But for this purpose I came to this hour.

This was anything but a time of rejoicing for Jesus as everyone is acknowledging Him as the Messiah. He knows that their shallow cries of Hosanna would soon be turned into cries of crucify Him.

As a matter of fact, as He draws near to Jerusalem in this triumphal entry He is actually crying. Look at **Luke 19: 41** + this is just after He tells the Pharisees that if the people didn't cry out the stone would and it says **now as He drew near He saw the city and WEPT over it...**because of their rejection of Him and God's soon judgment on the city in its destruction by the Romans.

That is why Jesus says in our passage in **Verse 27** **now My soul is troubled..** Jesus knows that His time has come and He is about to face and fulfill all those scriptures dealing with His physical, torturous, cruel death by crucifixion. But not only that, He is going to experience alienation and separation from God the Father, as **Psalm 22: 1** describes, and He will take all of the wrath of God's divine judgment for our sin.

No wonder He says **My soul is Troubled.** That word troubled, *according to Thayer's Greek dictionary*, is a very strong word that means, to agitate, to disturb, to stir up, to strike one's spirit with fear, to be anxious, to be distressed. These are all the emotions that Jesus is feeling as He is preparing to go to the cross.

It is not a cold, calculated, indifferent, without feeling path to the cross, it is one of strong emotion knowing that He is bearing the sin of the world and we see that emotion in **Luke 22: 41 – 44** where **He kneels down to pray and says Father let this cup pass by Me nevertheless not My will but Yours be done .. and being in agony, He prayed all the more earnestly then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling to the ground.**

This moment in the life of our Lord was always in the back of His mind.

He knew that in God's perfect timing He would come to the place where He would feel the pain of shame and spitting and pulling out His beard and the beating and scourging and crown of thorns and His hands and feet being nailed to a cross and His bones being out of joint and His tongue sticking to the roof of His mouth and His thirst and His loss of blood, all that accompany His crucifixion.

But worse than that, He would feel the pain of the curse of sin in His own soul that separates Him from the Father for that time on the cross when the full fury and wrath of God against all the sin of the world falls on Him as He who knew no sin became sin for us as **2nd Corinthians 5: 21** says.

But in the midst of all of that, Jesus rises above His troubled soul with a hypothetical question; **What shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour?** No!

But for this purpose I came to this hour. I am here to do the Father's will, just like He prayed in Luke 22 and just like He has told the people over and over again; that He came to do the Father's will, not His own. He would not deviate from God's eternal plan of redemption that culminated in Him giving His life.

His Father's will, even before the world began, was for Jesus to die for the sins of the world. **Revelation 13: 8** says **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.** **1st Peter 1: 20:** says that Jesus was **foreordained from the foundation of the world.** His purpose was established long **before time** began **2nd Timothy 1: 9** says.

This purpose, His crucifixion, was prophesied by the Old Testament prophets. **Isaiah 53: 4 – 6,** **Psalms 22: 1 – 18.** All of the animal sacrifices were pointing to the One Lamb of God that would take away the sin of the world as **John 1: 29** said.

Jesus Himself predicted this purpose for His coming in **Luke 18: 31 – 34** when He told His disciples **He was going up to Jerusalem and all things written about Him would be accomplished. He would be delivered into the hands of the Gentiles and will be mocked, insulted, spit on, scourged and killed and on the 3rd day He would rise again. But they didn't understand any of that** Luke says.

Jesus knew what the purpose was that brought Him to this hour. **1st John 3: 5, 8** says **He who sins is of the devil for the devil has sinned from the beginning. FOR THIS PURPOSE the Son of God was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil.**

Hebrews 2: 14 – 15 says **Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death he might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil ...** Jesus says the greatest purpose for all of this is in Verse 28.

Verse 28: Father, glorify Your name. so that the Father can be glorified. And God is most glorified in the display of His **love** and **grace** and **mercy** and **justice** and **redemption** and **forgiveness** in the substitutionary death of His own Son for sinful mankind. Now notice what happens in the rest of Verse 28.

Then a voice came from heaven saying 'I have both glorified it and will glorify it again. This is the 3rd time that people have been able to hear the audible voice of God from heaven. The first time was at Jesus' baptism in **Matthew 3: 16 – 17** and at His transfiguration in **Matthew 17: 5.** And both times God the Father tells the people that He is **well pleased with His Son.**

Now God says **I have both glorified** My name in and through You and Your life and ministry and teaching and miracles and all that has taken place to reveal Me through You and I will **glorify it again** as you fulfill all that was written about You in Your suffering, death, burial and resurrection.

God will be glorified by Christ because He has completed the mission that the Father has sent Him to do and He has completed it perfectly. From the revelation of the Father, to the teaching of the Scriptures, to His becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross, as **Philippians 2: 8** says, to His burial, to His resurrection and eventually to His subsequent return. This is God's affirmation on the person and work of Jesus. So God audibly speaks to Jesus and look how the people respond in Verse 29.

Verse 29: therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered and others said an angel has spoken to Him.

God's voice in the hearing of the people sounded, to some, like **thunder**. In **Job 37: 2** it says **Hear attentively the thunder of His voice and the rumbling that comes from His mouth. Psalm 18: 13** says **the Lord thundered from heaven and the Most High uttered His voice..** Read **Psalm 29** sometime and see how powerful the voice of God is.

Others thought that His voice **an angel that had spoken to Him**. It is interesting that they recognized to whom the voice was directing His conversation and it was to Jesus. Angels communicated with men all throughout the Old Testament in a variety of ways, but not here. The crowd was wrong on both counts; it wasn't thunder and it wasn't an angel.

These people were kind of like the people who were with Paul on the road to Damascus. The light came and Paul fell to his knees and then a voice from heaven talked with Him. The people **Acts 9: 7** heard it but **Acts 22: 9** says they did not understand it. So maybe that is what is happening here and they are coming up with the only possible explanation they have, thunder or an angel. So Jesus says in Verse 30.

Verse 30: Jesus answered and said ‘this voice did not come because of Me but for your sake.

His voice may have come audibly for the **sake of** the Greeks who had been brought to Him or for the sake of the disciples, or both, as a confirmation of His relationship with the Father.

Jesus said a similar thing in **John 11: 42** when He was at the tomb of Lazarus and about to call him forth. He prayed to the Father and then said **Father I thank You that You have heard Me and I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this THAT they may believe that You sent Me.**

So maybe Jesus is confirming to the Greek Judaisers that He is the One to be believed on and maybe to His closest disciples to strengthen their faith. Because Jesus Himself did not need to hear the voice of God to know that He is doing the will of God and glorifying God. So it was **for their sakes.**

God could have communicated with Jesus secretly or quietly, as He had many times, but He communicates openly with Jesus in the hearing of others to, also, affirm that Jesus is the Son of God and maybe in a way to tell His disciples that all is going to plan; so when you see Me mistreated, suffering and dying, I am still glorifying the Father. Then Jesus says in Verses 31 – 33.

Verses 31 – 33: now is the judgment of this world; now the rule of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself. This He said signifying by what death He would die.

When you look at these verses, what Jesus is saying is that, **now**, when I die and because of My death, 3 things will happen.

Number one, there will be a **judgment of this world**. And when He uses the term **world**, He is not referring to the entire world, He is referring to unbelievers in the world, as He does in *John 7: 7, 8: 23, 14: 17, 15: 18* and other place.

The judgment is against an unbelieving world who has chosen to reject Jesus Christ and put Him to death. And when someone chooses to reject Jesus Christ today, they are under that same condemnation and judgment. Later in **John 12: 48** Jesus will say **He who rejects Me and does not receive My words has that which judges him, the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.**

On that last day, when all unbelievers are judged at the Great White Throne Judgment of **Revelation 20: 11 – 15** they will suffer the consequences of that eternal judgment in the lake of fire that burns forever and ever. Jesus will say in **John 16: 8** that **when the Holy Spirit comes He will convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment because Verse 11 says of judgment because the rule of this world is judged.**

“When they executed Christ, the whole world fell under judgment. Every man who ever lives is judged by what he does with the cross of Christ. So when Jesus dies on the cross, in effect, He set the standard for judgment. Judgment has come. It is by the cross that every man is judged. You believe in the cross, you're saved; you reject the cross, you're lost. It is the standard by which God judges.”

MacArthur GTY John

Jesus says ‘not only will the world be judged’ but **now the ruler or this world**, the one responsible for bringing sin and death and rejection of Christ, **will be cast out**. With Christ death and subsequent resurrection comes victory over **the ruler of this world** who is Satan. We know that the **ruler of this world** is Satan because he is described that way and several different ways in scripture. He is described as ‘the god of this age’, ‘the prince of the power of the air’, and many others.

We saw that as far back as **Genesis 3: 15**: where **Satan bruised His** (Christ's) **heel**, at the cross, **Christ will crush His head by His death and resurrection.**

The power of death that Satan had, according to **Hebrews 11: 14**, is now taken away, leaving him powerless. He has no authority. He is still alive and able to influence his destructive behavior but only in the temporal sense and only on those under his influence who have rejected Christ. He will soon suffer the eternal death, the 2nd death and everlasting punishment prepared for him by God according to **Matthew 25: 41** and **Revelation 20: 10, 15.**

Then, finally, Jesus says in **Verses 32 – 33** and **if I am lifted up from the earth, if I am crucified, then I will draw all peoples to Myself. This He said signifying by what death He would die.**

‘The Jews and the unbelieving world rejected Jesus and thought that they had judged Him by killing Him, Satan thought that he had judged Christ at the cross but it was Christ who judged him, and now they want to lift Him up as a criminal and He will be lifted up as a Savior so now Jesus says, on the positive side, in My death, My being lifted up, crucified, **I will draw all people to Myself.**

Jesus says that when I die on the cross for the sins of the world and later when I am raised from the grave for their justification, then I will draw those sinners to Myself to repentance and forgiveness and eternal life through My sacrifice.

When Jesus said He would draw ALL people to Himself, He didn't mean every single person, He means everyone who will put their faith and trust in Him, because not everyone is going to do that, as we have seen. Remember what Jesus said in **John 3: 14 – 16** *Read.* Not everyone but **whoever** looks to the cross will be saved, drawn to Jesus in salvation.

Apart from Jesus dying on the cross, there is no access to God in heaven. Apart from believing that Jesus died for your sins, was buried and rose the 3rd day, you have no eternal life or access to God in heaven. You only have the condemnation and judgment of God abiding on you as **John 3: 18** says.

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Introduction and Review:

Verse 27:

Luke 19: 41, Psalm 22: 1 - 18, Luke 22: 41 – 44
2nd Corinthians 5: 21, Revelation 13: 8
1st Peter 1: 20, 2nd Timothy 1: 9, Isaiah 53: 4 – 6
John 1: 29, Luke 18: 31 – 34, 1st John 3: 5, 8
Hebrews 2: 14 – 15

Verse 28:

Matthew 3: 16, Matthew 17: 5
Philippians 2: 8

Verse 29:

Job 37: 2, Psalm 18: 13, Psalm 29
Acts 9: 7, Acts 22: 9

Verse 30:

John 11: 42

Verses 31 – 33:

John 7: 7, 8: 23, 14: 17, 15: 18, John 12: 48
Revelation 20: 11 – 15, John 16: 8, 11
Genesis 3: 15, Hebrews 11: 14, Matthew 25: 41
John 3: 14 – 16, John 3: 18

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John 3: 14 – 16, John 3: 18