

The Son of Man Must be Lifted Up

John 3:11-15

Introduction

John continues his diligent pursuit of revealing Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God.

- 1) Chapter one was the *declaration* of His deity.
- 2) Chapter two, the *demonstration* of His deity.
- 3) Chapter three, the *dynamics* of His deity (vv1-10).
- 4) Chapter three, the *didactics* of His deity (vv11-21).

Discourse turns to didactics as Jesus discloses details of divine deliverance from darkness and death by drawing a distinct dichotomy.

To make His point clear to Nicodemus, Jesus raises a sharp dichotomy between *creation* and *heaven*.

v11

“Truly, truly, I say to you”

“we” Gk plural

“you” Gk plural

“we speak...and bear witness...” the second intentionally stronger, more convincing.

1 John 1:1-2

“but you do not receive our testimony”

John 8:26

John 8:38

John 12:49-50

John 14:24

John 17:8

v12

v13

“No one has ascended into heaven”

Jesus continues the dichotomy with another contrasting comparison.

John 6:33

John 6:38

John 6:51

John 8:42

John 16:28

John 3:31-32

v14

This is the *second* instance of Jesus using OT imagery to foreshadow some aspect of His role as Redeemer.

His role as *Mediator* (1:51).

His role as *Healer* (v14)

Numbers 21:4-9

Not just *looking up* at the serpent on the pole saved them, but their *belief* and *obedience*.

John 12:32

“so must the Son of Man be lifted up”

Ascension and Exaltation.

John 2:19

Acts 1:9

Acts 2:32-33

Acts 5:30-32

John 8:23-24, 28

They must look upon Him whom they have pierced

Zechariah 12:10

John 19:36-37

Hebrews 12:2

v15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Will you entrust your life to Him?

Romans 4:24-25

The crucifixion was a hateful act of man. The resurrection is a loving act of God.

It was not the preaching of the crucifixion that the people loathed, it was the preaching of the *resurrection* that inflamed the murderous hearts of fallen men (Acts 4:2; 23:6-10; 24:21).

Romans 1:4

The crucifixion was the world's darkest hour. The resurrection was heaven's brightest day.

"eternal life"

The all-important dichotomy remains for us:

Colossians 3:1-4

Revelation 1:7

Lifted up on a cross, risen in glory! Hallelujah!