

John 2021 #26 (10.17.21) #21085
John 12:27-50
Final Offer

I. Jesus's world was just as confused as ours...

- A. The Greek/Roman world had many conflicting gods.
- B. The Greek/Roman philosophers had many conflicting ideas.
- C. Israel was under Roman rule and heading for a war.
- D. Israeli politics was tumultuous and violent. (Herodians and zealots)
- E. Jewish theology was divided and arguing (Sadducees, Pharisees, Essenes.)

II. So, God enters the confusion as His Word...Jn.1:1-5

- A. He has astonished and challenged Israel for 3 ½ years. (Mk.1:15)
 - 1. Now, Israel, God's covenant people, faces a choice...
- B. He has made an official messianic presentation of himself. (Triumphal Entry). 12:1-19
 - 1. But not exactly what they expected, or in the end wanted...
- C. He has been reminded of his mission to the whole world. **12:20-26**.
 - 1. The Greeks come to seek him...
 - 2. The price of eternal life for the world...the planted seed.

III. John 12:27-50 is the Final Offer from God to Israel. Note three very important things that John shows us. 27-50

- A. Steadfast trust in the Father's plan. 27-36
 - 1. Desiring the Father's Glory. 26-29. *Glorify your name.*
 - a) God's plan is his own glory
 - 2. Which focuses on the victory of the Son's Cross. *When I am lifted up...32*
 - a) Lifted up: Deliberately ambiguous. Crucifixion/exaltation.
 - b) The judgment of the world.
 - c) The defeat of Satan. (Eph.1:19-23)
 - d) The drawing of all kinds of people into himself.
 - 3. And illuminates the way out of the world's darkness. 33-35. *Walk in the light.*
 - a) I am light, trust me and pay attention to what I say.
- B. Hard-hearted unbelief in the face of the evidence. 36-43. Why is there unbelief?
 - 1. Because Isaiah 53:1 predicts it.
 - 2. Because Isaiah 6:10 confirms it.
 - a) Judicial hardening... Rom.1:24-32; 9:1-
 - b) Isaiah saw the glory of Christ in the temple of YHWH!!
 - 3. Stunning Note: John deliberately associates Christ with God's glory in Isa.6.
 - a) Jesus taught his disciples how to interpret the OT

C. A Two-sided invitation from God's living Word. 44-50. (Last public call)

1. When you come to me, you are coming to God.
 - a) Jesus is not a "separate god" from the Father.
 - b) And if you refuse to come to me, you are not coming to God (!). Jn.5:21-24
2. I am God's Word and I speak God's Word.
 - a) Which is why they will judge unbelief in the end.
3. God's Word is light and offers eternal life—
4. Or judgment. 48-
 - a) It is a two-edged sword.

IV. Questions that help us focus during confusing times.

- A. Whose glory am I interested in?
 1. Mine? Man's? Cultural? National? Financial? Educational?
- B. Which enlightenment do I seek?
 1. The "enlightenment" of western civilization deifies autonomous human Reason. How is that working out for us...?
- C. What Word am I living in? Jn.6:29; 20:30-31
 1. Man's Word is all we here all the time. But it does not grant eternal life.
 2. Man's Word never offers freedom from guilt and shame based on justice and righteousness.
 - a) There is no Cross and no Resurrection in human philosophy.