

Series: The Gospel of John

Day 12: The purpose of Jesus' death

Prayer

Let us pray.

O Lord I want to exalt your name, to you belong all glory forever. Lord it was a challenge to choose which passage I should use today, just like it was in the days leading up to today. There are so much content and different messages in each chapter, therefore I thank you for those who faithfully intercede for this ministry. Through their prayers the Spirit leads me on what to share.

That's why I know Lord, there is someone listening today who needs this very message. Someone who knows about Jesus' crucifixion, but has heard the message so many times that he or she does not hear it anymore. Someone who is worried about what is going on in the world around us. Lighten that person's heart and give him or her peace, o Lord.

Amen

Introduction

We are walking together through the 21 chapters of the Gospel of John in these 21 days. The other mornings I gave you an overview of what we have already done.

Overview of the whole book

Today we are going to look at the whole book:

- Chapters 1-12 Jesus public ministry. And we are at chapter 12 today, the end of a main section of the book.
- Chapters 13-17 The disciple's preparation for Jesus' crucifixion
- Chapters 18-21 The events at the cross

Then just quickly something about the last three chapters

Each time the Lord led me to a heading with the word "purpose"

In chapter 9

Blind man healed: Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, **but that the works of God might be displayed in him.** (9:3)

Purpose: 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. **So there will be one flock, one shepherd.** (10:6)

A purpose to bring His flock together.

Lazarus resurrected: But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, **so that** the Son of God may be glorified through it." (11:4)

And so, in all three chapters the purpose is God's glory, God's glory and for that reason He gathers a flock.

And this brings us to chapter 12 the purpose of Jesus' death

Chapter 12: The Purpose of Jesus' death

We are reading together from verse 27:

27 "Now is my soul troubled. And **what shall I say?**

'Father, save me from *this hour*'?

But **for this purpose** I have come to *this hour*.

28 Father, glorify your name."

Then **a voice came from heaven:**

**"I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again."**

29 The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had **thundered**.

Others said, "An angel **has spoken to him**."

A powerful conversation. Jesus says: what shall I say? A voice comes from Heaven like thunder. And then he tells us when this conversation takes place, in this hour, the hour of his crucifixion. From verse 37 we get a summary of his earthly ministry, so this is the last public action of Jesus. The highlight.

Jesus says: what shall I say? He says: Father, glorify your name! and the answer came, I have glorified my name. It happened at his birth:

12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host **praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"** **Luke 2:12-14**

**"I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again."**

When you are crucified. When Jesus begins to pray in John 17, He says:

*When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; **glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,** (John 17:1)*

And then He says:

*But for this purpose I have come to this hour.
28 Father, glorify your name."*

Jesus came for the crucifixion and the crucifixion is the greatest display of God's glory forever.

*I have come to this hour.
28 Father, glorify your name."*

30 Jesus answered,
"This voice has come for your sake,
not mine.

I am going to glorify God in three ways through my crucifixion and it's all for your sake.

*31 Now is the judgment of this world;
now will the ruler of this world be cast out.
32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all people to myself."*

33 He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

Here are three things, let's look at them:

31 Now is the judgment of this world;

We all know there is a judgment day in the future:

for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice 29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment. (John 5:28-29)

We have worked through it together in John 5, but remember we also read John 5:24. Because in this verse it specifically says that the judgement is now. And in this context, this "now" is the crucifixion, so what judgment comes along with the crucifixion?

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. (John 5:24)

But it says in Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ.

The "now" judgement.

It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me [Romans 8:3]. (Galatians 2:20)

He has already borne the judgment on my behalf. So, the first way Jesus glorified God through his crucifixion is:

31 Now is the judgment of this world;

the second way

now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

How will this happen we know, after all, that the devil is still here on earth. John himself gives us one or two clues in chapter 13:27 he said

27 Then after he (Jude) had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly."

So, in this "now" period, this period that Jesus would be crucified to pay for all sin was Satan's last great attempt to stop it. And then in John 16 he explains to us even further:

11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged...

And he starts talking about the spirit

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth... 15 All that the Father has is mine;

sin has already been paid for, Satan's greatest power has his charge taken away in court, the people who want to charge have already been judged, they have already been acquitted. Satan is thrown out of court. And so, we can read in Revelation 12:11.

11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb...(Revelation 12:11)

when the blood of the lamb flowed, now at the crucifixion Satan was thrown out of court.

The third way Jesus glorified God with the crucifixion:

32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."

Remember the gripping story in John 3: 14-15 of how the people lay dying in the desert bitten by snakes and they just had to look up and believe.

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, [when I am lifted up from the earth,]

15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

With His crucifixion it happens. He becomes the door and we can go in to God the Father and He becomes the Shepherd who can draw everyone to Him so that all who believe can have eternal life.

If Jesus then gave them the three ways, how He is going to glorify God with His crucifixion, He concludes his public action with these words:

Walk

*while you have the light,
lest darkness overtake you.*

*The one who walks in the darkness
does not know where he is going.*

*36 While you have the light,
believe in the light,
that you may become sons of light.” (John 12:35-26)*

In the beginning of the book He said:

9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world... 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

The light Jesus Christ shines in us, He fills us with the Holy Spirit and then we can believe and so we become children of God. And in this context, we read together today is what we must believe, we are not going to be judged we already passed from death to life. Satan has been cast out of court, our sins are forgiven. He has already drawn us to Him, He has become the door for us, He has become the shepherd and we are part of His flock. We are children of God, children of light.

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...

The glory of His act on the cross is full of grace.

16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:16)

Jesus glorified God in this way, in his death. Now shine that light that is in you, that glory of God for all to see.

Let us conclude

Jesus said:

For this purpose I have come to this hour

And then the Father answered:

I have glorified My name (at Your birth)

I will glorify it again (at Your crucifixion)

And the crucifixion is the greatest display of God's glory forever.

Then Jesus explained that He was going to glorify God in three ways through His crucifixion and it's all of our your sake.

1. Now **is the judgment**
2. Now **will the ruler of this world be cast out**
3. **I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself**

And the reason?

That you may become sons of light

So the purpose of God's love:

For this purpose I have come to this hour

that you may become **sons of light**

that the **Father** may be glorified

Reflection

Today, this passage taught us new things about the love and the glory of God the Father and Son. Especially about the purpose of the crucifixion. Read the passage again and write down what you learned.

Thanksgiving

Today we have seen the greatest display of God's glory: The crucifixion. And amazingly so, for our sake. We have seen his Glory and we received grace upon grace. To what acts of faithfulness does that lead you? Maybe to share this message with someone? Maybe to just thank God many times today? Or maybe to show an act of kindness and love.

Write down one, very specific, thing that the Spirit is welling up in you, that you are going to do differently during today.

Prayer

O, Father, thank you that your Son became flesh and lived among us. We have seen His glory. The glory that He has as your only Son. Yes, full of grace and truth. We believe that we have already gone from death to life. We believe Satan was thrown out of court; our sin

is forgiven. We believe you made us part of the Shepherd's flock. From your fullness we have received grace upon grace. Let us be shining lights that display Your glory.

Amen