Let's Worship God

1st-6th February 2021 John



J C H N

Monday - John 12:20-26 - Life through Death

Jesus is trying to teach these Greeks and His disciples some key principles. First, He has not come to be a king in the way that these men think. He has come to carry a cross and not to wear a crown, not to live a life of honour, but to die a shameful and dishonoured death. The kingdom He has come to set up begins, not with a coronation, but with a crucifixion.

Second, Jesus wants them to know that it is through His death that spiritual life will come to the world. It will be the root of blessings and mercy to millions of men and women, boys and girls. It is Christ's death, not His miracles or teaching, that is so necessary for our salvation.

Because of these truths, Jesus goes on to make an application to us. If we want to be saved we must be ready to put sin to death. We must be willing to give up our life itself, if necessary, in order to put Christ first. If we love our lives here on earth so much that we can't give up anything for Jesus, we will find at the end that we have lost everything. But if we are ready to sacrifice even the things we love the most in order to love and obey Christ, we will find at the end that we have lost nothing.

Jesus also teaches that if we claim to serve Him, we must follow Him. Like the soldier follows his general, like the student follows his teacher, the child his mother, or the sheep his shepherd, so the professing Christian should follow Christ. Faith and obedience are the marks of real followers and will always be seen in true Christians. Our knowledge may be small, our weakness great, but if we believe what Christ says and work to do what Christ commands, we have the promise that where He is, we will be too.

Questions

- 1. What kind of king is Jesus?
- 2. What do we need to put to death as Christians?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would put sin to death in our lives.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b Praise: Psalm 119: Part 13 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Tuesday - John 12:27-33 - Christ our Saviour

These verses teach a very important truth - Christ carried the burden of our sins. Here is our Saviour, the Son of God, troubled and upset. The one who can heal diseases with a touch, cast out devils with a word, and command the wind and waves to obey Him, is in agony. Why? He feels the burden of man's sins pressing Him down. He is carrying the sins of His people- it is the weight, the guilt, the burden of our sins that cause this agony. But what a comfort to us. Christ has borne our sins, carried our sins, groaned under our sins, been troubled by our sins, and really taken away our sins.

We also see in these verses a picture of an inward conflict in Christ. There is a struggle going on in Him - a struggle coming from the tension between one who is perfect and yet capable of suffering all that man can suffer. Jesus is struggling with what He is going to have to do. He is finding it hard. Sometimes we think that because we struggle or find it hard to be faithful and obedient, we are a poor Christian. Jesus is perfect, and yet He struggles to do the Father's will when He is on earth. But He obeys, and we need to do the same.

The voice of God from Heaven shows us that throughout His ministry, Jesus and His Father are in close fellowship with each other. It also shows that the Son is approved by the Father to be the Messiah, Redeemer, and the Saviour of man.

Finally, Christ prophesies about the effect His death will have. Dying as our Substitute and the Sacrifice for our sins, He will draw multitudes out of every nation to believe on Him as their Saviour. For thousands of years men and women who have heard of Christ crucified have been drawn by the power of the Holy Spirit to Him. And the day will come when every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Christ is Lord.

Questions

- 1. Why is Christ struggling?
- 2. What effect will Christ's death have?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for those struggling in the congregation.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b Praise: Psalm 119: Part 14 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Wednesday - John 12:34-43 - Walk in the Light

The things Jesus is saying here are not just for the Jews - they are for all people at all times. He is calling us to make the most of our opportunities. Our time for doing good in the world is short and limited. The door of salvation by faith in Christ will not always be open: it will shut one day forever. Have we exhausted every means of speaking to others about Christ? Have we taken every opportunity to believe and to grow in our faith? We have Bibles, we have God's Word being preached, we have prayer meetings and METs. Light is around us on every side. Are we walking in it?

We also see in these verses the terrible hardness of the human heart. Even though Jesus has done so many amazing miracles, the people do not believe. Don't make the mistake of thinking that seeing wonderful things will save someone. Some people claim that if they just saw a sign, or heard a voice, they would lay aside their doubts and believe. But nothing short of a new heart and a new nature given us by the Holy Spirit, will ever make us real disciples of Christ. Without this, a miracle might make us temporarily excited, but like these Jews it would soon wear off.

Finally we see in these verses that the love of the world has a great power over men. We hear about some men who are convinced that Jesus is the Messiah. But they don't have the courage to admit it publicly. They are scared of the ridicule and persecution that goes along with being a follower of Christ. They keep their opinions to themselves. There are thousands of Christians who are held back by the fear of man. The only way of overcoming this fear is to learn more and more about God and to grow in your faith as a result. Pray for a stronger faith to overcome the fear of man.

Questions

- 1. What opportunities could you make a better use of?
- 2. What is the only way men and women will believe?
- 3. How can we overcome the fear of man?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we will be bold in following Christ.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b Praise: Psalm 119:Part 15 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Thursday - John 12:44-50 - The Light of the World

Jesus is teaching us about Himself in these verses. For one thing, He is stressing His unity with God the Father. He is not like the prophets, or Abraham and Moses, a man sent by God the Father, a friend of God, and a witness for God. He is something far higher and greater than this. He is one with the Father and in seeing Him, men see the Father that sends Him. He that casts his sins on Jesus Christ by faith is building on a rock. Believing on Christ, he believes on Him that sends Christ.

Jesus compares Himself to a light like the sun. Like the sun, He has risen on this sin-darkened world with healing on His wings. He is the source of all spiritual life and comfort. We can never trust Him too much, follow Him too closely, or speak to Him too unreservedly. He has all power in heaven and earth. He is able to save to the uttermost all who come to God by Him. No one can snatch us out of the hand of Him who is one with the Father. Looking to Him, we find light in our understandings, see light on the path of life we have to travel, feel light in our hearts, and find the days of darkness which will come not nearly as dark.

Jesus also teaches that there is a judgement day coming. There is a last day. The world will not always go on as it does now. There is a time when this world will stop. It has a beginning, and it will have an end. The dead shall be raised; the living will be changed. All people that have ever lived will stand before the judgement seat of Christ. The books will be opened, and the evidence brought out. Our true character will come out before the world. There will be no way to hide and no way to lie. Every one will give an account of Himself to God, and all will be judged.

Questions

- 1. What makes Jesus different from a prophet?
- 2. How is Jesus like the sun?
- 3. What will happen on the last day?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for the salvation of our friends, families, and neighbours.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b Praise: Psalm 119: Part 16 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Friday - John 13:1-5 - The Love of Christ

These verses are a beautiful illustration of Christ's patient and continuing love toward His people. Knowing perfectly well that His disciples are about to forsake Him in a few hours, Jesus does not get tired of them, and He does not stop loving them.

The love of Christ to sinners is the very heart of the Gospel. That He should love us at all, and care for our souls; that He should love us before we love Him, or even know anything about Him; that He should love us so much as to come into the world to save us, take our nature on Him, bear our sins, and die for us on the cross - all this is amazing. It is the kind of love that there's nothing like among men. Our selfishness can't comprehend it. That Christ should put up with all our weaknesses from conversion to death; that He should never be tired of our endless inconsistencies and petty provocations; that He should go on forgiving and forgetting and never be provoked to get rid of us - all this is marvellous. No mother or father has their patience so tried as the patience of Christ is tried by Christians. But His love never ends.

We don't need to be afraid of coming to Christ for salvation. The worst of sinners can come to Him boldly and trust Him for forgiveness with confidence. We don't need to be afraid of Christ abandoning us when we have trusted in Him. Christ will not leave us because of our failures and weaknesses. Those whom He loves at first He loves at last. His promises are never broken.

Questions

- 1. How does Jesus treat His disciples?
- 2. Why does Jesus love us?
- 3. What kind of promises does Jesus make to His people?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks for Christ's love.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 17 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

Saturday - John 13:6-15 - Washing

Peter is a man of impulse. At one moment he is refusing to allow Christ to wash his feet. Another moment he rushes to the opposite extreme and tells Christ to wash all of him. But he is unable to take in the real meaning of what he sees. We may be like Peter. Perhaps we have a lot of faith and a lot of love, but no clear knowledge. The heart can often be quite right when the head is quite wrong. Like Peter we make a lot of mistakes, but Christ is still gracious to us. Even at our best we find that a lot of what Christ does to us is hard to understand in this life. Trying to figure out why God is doing what He's doing can puzzle us as much as this washing puzzled Peter. Christ's words to the disciples are for us as well: "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

Jesus is teaching both His disciples and us an important lesson on humility and love. If the only-begotten Son of God, the King of kings, did not think it beneath Him to do the humblest work of a servant, there is nothing which His disciples should think themselves too great or too good to do. Also, our Lord would have us love others so much that we should delight to do anything which can promote their happiness. We ought to rejoice in doing kindnesses, even in little things. We ought to count it a pleasure to lessen sorrow and multiply joy, even when it costs us some self-sacrifice and self-denial.

Christ also teaches His disciples three important truths. First, we all need to have our sins washed away by Christ's blood. Second, even those who are cleansed and forgiven need to daily come to Christ for forgiveness - to wash their feet. Finally, even those who keep company with Christ are not all washed from their sin - some are like Judas.

Questions

- 1. What should we do when Christ does things we don't understand?
- 2. What example is Christ setting out for us?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"And the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned." John 15:6b Praise: Psalm 119: Part 18 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!

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