

BIBLE STUDY: LESSON 24

Scripture of Lesson: John 12: 20~50

1. Die to live; lose to gain; hate life to gain life

- a. v. 24 “Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abides alone: but if it dies, it brings forth much fruit.”
 - i. Universal law of natural multiplication – principle of agriculture
 - ii. Also true in the spiritual world. God’s messengers must lose their worldly ambitions and die in self to sow the seed for propagation of God’s word – true spirit of Christian ministry.
 - iii. Who is the corn of wheat Jesus is referring to here?
- b. V. 25-26 “He that loves his life shall lose it; and he that hates his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honor.”
 - i. What does it mean to love or hate one’s life in this world?
 - ii. What is the cost of following Christ?
 - iii. Christ encourages His disciples to follow after His example.
 - iv. An example of Christ-like ministry of Paul: II Cor 6: 3~10

2. Jesus’ agony as a human and God’s encouragement

- a. V. 27 “Now is my soul troubled –“Jesus Christ was divine as well as human. His human side suffered in anguish in anticipation of the coming suffering and death. And He shared His feelings with His disciples.
- b. His heartfelt response: “Father, glorify thy name. – for this cause came I.” Entire work of God had been for this sacrifice of the Lamb of God to fulfill God’s salvation plan for the humanity. – Isaiah 53: 10~12
- c. God’s voice of encouragement –“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.” When we suffer for righteousness, be sure to know God’s encouragement is there with you.

3. Jesus’ death and Satan’s fall

- a. Gen 3: 15—God’s word to serpent. “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; it shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”
- b. Death of the Lamb of God would spoil Satan’s scheme of failing God’s salvation plan. Rather, the Lamb’s death would fulfill it.
- c. V. 31 “Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.” Satan was cast out of Heaven as Christ died on the cross.
- d. V. 32—Christ foretold of the great period of global Christian mission to call all people to Him.

4. Believing in the light to become children of light

- a. V. 46 “I am come a light into the world.” Gospel of Christ shines true light into our souls, our life, our community and the world. Let the light shine forth!
- b. Let us seek God’s true light in Christ found in the Scripture, through meditation and prayers; delight in it and obey the voice of Holy Spirit that draws us to it.