

John 12:20-26

Verses 20-22 There were Gentiles who had converted to Judaism and had come to the Passover to see Jesus. The Gentiles who came to worship were limited to court of the Gentiles as they were restricted by the dividing wall which separated the Jews from the Gentiles. Crossing over this wall was punishable by death. Paul was falsely accused of bringing a Gentile past the dividing wall which led to his arrest and seizure in **Acts 21**.

- **Acts 21:27-30** When the seven days were almost over, the Jews from ^[k]Asia, upon seeing him in the temple, *began* to stir up all the crowd and laid hands on him, ²⁸ crying out, “Men of Israel, come to our aid! This is the man who preaches to all men everywhere against our people and the Law and this place; and besides he has even brought Greeks into the temple and has defiled this holy place.” ²⁹ For they had previously seen Trophimus the Ephesian in the city with him, and they supposed that Paul had brought him into the temple. ³⁰ Then all the city was provoked, and ^uthe people rushed together, and taking hold of Paul they dragged him out of the temple, and immediately the doors were shut.
- The Gentiles coming to Jesus is a foreshadowing of the mystery of the Gospel as through the death of Christ, the dividing wall would be destroyed as redemption was not just for the Jew, but also for the Gentile. The Gentiles are the other sheep in another fold spoken of in **John 10:16**.
 - **Ephesians 2:11-22** Therefore remember that formerly you, the Gentiles in the flesh, who are called “Uncircumcision” by the so-called “Circumcision,” *which is* performed in the flesh by human hands— ¹² *remember* that you were at that time separate from Christ, ^[a]excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off ^[b]have been brought near ^[c]by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who made both *groups into* one and broke down the ^[d]barrier of the dividing wall, ¹⁵ ^[e]by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so that in Himself He might ^[f]make the two into one new man, *thus* establishing peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, ^[g]by it having put to death the enmity. ¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were far away, and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the ^[h]saints, and are of God’s household, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner *stone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy ^[i]temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Verse 23

- All through the gospel according to John, we have read that “His hour had not yet come.” The first mention of His hour not yet come is found in **John 2:4** at the wedding at Cana when He spoke that to His mother Mary. Here in this verse for the first time we see the shift from His hour being in the future to now His hour being in the present. His hour is at hand and has now come!
- The Son of Man is the title that Jesus uses the most of Himself. This speaks of the incarnation and His resurrection. As **John 3:13** states, “no one has ascended into Heaven, but He who descended from Heaven: the Son of Man. The title Son of Man is one of power, rule, authority, and dominion as stated in **Daniel 7:13-14**.
- The life of Christ can be put into two categories: humiliation and exaltation. In **Philippians 2:5-11**, the incarnation of Christ was the start of His humiliation with the death which Christ would die (death on a cross) also mentioned in the humiliation.
- However, here we see that the death of Christ is also referenced to be where the Son of Man would be glorified. He is glorified in His death as He is glorifying the Father with His obedience to the mission that was set forth in eternity past. He is glorified as He is the only true Passover Lamb who could atone for the sins of His sheep as He is the only one without sin. He is glorified as He would defeat Satan on the cross.
- It was through His suffering that He entered into His glory after His resurrection as He ascended to glory beside the Ancient of Days.

Verse 24

- The importance of this verse is indicated with the two-fold repetition of “truly, truly.”
- Jesus uses an analogy to describe His death. Unless the grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it is worthless and unproductive. However, through the death of the grain of wheat into the earth, much fruit is produced.
- Wheat is a component of bread and Jesus has already identified that He is the Bread of Life that has come down from Heaven ([John 6](#)). This speaks the necessity of Christ’s incarnation and death as His death will lead to the salvation of many souls.
- Christians are referred to as wheat (the fruit from the wheat (Jesus) falling to the earth in death) in the parable of the wheat and tares in [Matthew 13](#).
- Pentecost or Feast of Weeks is where they would bring in the new grain offering of the Wheat Harvest. In [Acts 2](#), the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the Conversion of ~3,000 on the Day of Pentecost was the first fruits of the wheat (the harvest of believers after the death of Christ and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit) that would spread throughout all the world via the Holy Spirit. The rest of the harvest is being gathered day by day until the last person is saved. Then the great and final harvest will come, and the wheat (the elect) will be gathered into His barn and will then shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father! Those who did not believe will be gathered and thrown into the furnace of fire with weeping and gnashing of teeth. ([Revelation 14:14-20](#)). The fruit from Christ’s death is also spoken of in [Isaiah 53:10-11](#).
 - [Isaiah 53:10-11](#) But the Lord was pleased To crush Him, ^[1]putting Him to grief; If ^[2]He would render Himself as a guilt offering, He will see His ^[3]offspring, He will prolong His days, And the ^[4]good pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His hand. ¹¹As a result of the ^[5]anguish of His soul, He will see ^[6]it and be satisfied; By His knowledge the Righteous One, My Servant, will justify the many, As He will bear their iniquities.

Verses 25-26

- Jesus’ suffering was the path to His glorification. We as Christians are to pick up and carry our cross, endure all the suffering, and being willing to die if necessary for Him. We are to consider our lives nothing in comparison to following Him.
 - [Matthew 10:37-39](#) “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me; and he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁸And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. ³⁹He who has found his ^[a]life will lose it, and he who has lost his ^[b]life for My sake will find it.
 - [Matthew 16:24-26](#) Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵For whoever wishes to save his ^[a]life will lose it; but whoever loses his ^[b]life for My sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?
 - [2 Timothy 3:12](#) Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
 - [Acts 20:24](#) But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.
 - [Romans 8:16-18](#) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

The Greeks who came to the Passover wanted to see Jesus and worship, but in their worship, they were kept at a distance by the dividing wall. However, the dividing wall would soon be destroyed when the Son of Man, who is the Bread of Life, like the wheat would fall into the earth and die. It would be in His suffering and His death that Christ would be glorified which would also result in the bringing forth of much fruit. This fruit is the salvation of the souls of the wheat harvest which is His elect from the Jew and the Gentile. Jesus carried His cross unto His death and in His suffering, He was glorified. Let us pick our cross daily and carry it even unto death and endure suffering so that we will be glorified with Him one day. The Godhead from eternity past had an exact time for the Lamb of God to be slain for the redemption and atonement of His elect. Jesus has lived a perfect life fulfilling all righteousness for His sheep and now His life is coming to an end. The time for Him to be glorified and to lay His life down for His sheep is at hand as He Himself spoke and proclaimed, “The hour has come for the Son on Man to be glorified.” The cross is coming, His suffering is coming, His death is coming, His burial is coming, His resurrection is coming, and His ascension is coming. As a result, the Holy Spirit would be coming to regenerate and bring in the fruit of His harvest. Let us forever feel the weight of the words “The hour has come.”