

Lenten Bible Study 2021

The Gospel of John, Chapters 12-21

“That You Might Believe”

Lenten Study, Lesson 1

- A. Opening Prayer and Lighting the Candle**
- B. Overview of Lent: 40 Days of Study and Reflection in preparation for Jesus’s glorious Easter Resurrection!**
- C. Review of the first 11 chapters of John: Themes and Messages, Healings and Hopes**
- D. Mary Anoints Jesus - Chapter 12:1-8**
 - 1. Background: setting, timing, mood**
 - 2. Mary’s anointing: what is she thinking? Why now?**
 - 3. Judas’s response: what is his motivation?**
- E. The Plot to Kill Lazarus - Chapter 12:9-10**
 - 1. Why is Lazarus to be persecuted?**
 - 2. A “mob” seems to be building: for what purpose?**
- F. Jesus’s Triumphant Entry Into Jerusalem - Chapt.12:11-19**
 - 1. Background: Passover time, preparations needed (Luke19:28-44)**
 - 2. Jesus came on a donkey in fulfillment of prophesy, (Zechariah 9:9) and is given a King’s Welcome. Why did the Crowd so quickly turn against him?**

G. The “Hour Has Come” - Chapter 12:20-36

- 1. Why is it important to mention the Greeks looking for Jesus at the festival? (vs 20-22)**
- 2. What does Jesus mean with the parable of the grain of wheat? How do we serve Jesus? (vs.23-26)**
- 3. Jesus speaks of his death in this “hour”, and asks the Father to be glorified. What is God’s response? What do the people say? How does Jesus explain? (vs. 27-36)**

H. The crowd is divided as Jesus departs – Chapt.12:36b-43

- 1. Why have some not believed?**
- 2. Why are even believers silent?**

I. Jesus’ final public proclamation - Chapter 12:44-50

J. Jesus prepares the Disciples for what is to come – Chapt.13

- 1. Background: In Preparation (Luke 22:7-13)**
- 2. Jesus washes the disciples’ feet (vs.1-20): What is happening here? What is he teaching them? What is their task to be? What is ours?**
- 3. Jesus foretells of his betrayal (vs.21-30) Judas sets things in motion (Luke 22:1-6) Jesus announces that one will betray him: how do the disciples respond? Judas leaves and it is misunderstood, why? What do we know about betrayal? And the “night”?**
- 4. The “New Commandment” (vs.31-35) Notice the timing: Judas is no longer there and so this becomes the most intimate time with his disciples. Why does he call them “little children”? What does he ask of them?**

5. Jesus foretells Peter's denial (vs. 36-38)

Peter shows his concern and desire to follow Jesus. Why then does Jesus tell of his denial? Why now?

What are all the disciples thinking and feeling at this moment?

Final reflections as we continue to follow Jesus as He prepares for the Way of the Cross.

Closing Prayers