

John 12:20-33 Quiz

The coming of the Greeks signals that the whole world is coming to follow Jesus. Until this moment, God had been the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but not the God of the whole world. The arrival of these Greeks near the end of Jesus' life meant that the exclusive relationship that the Jews had always enjoyed with God would soon be over. It would no longer be, "For God so loved _____," but "For God so loved the world."

When Jesus said, "The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified," he meant that the time had come for him to die. Later, he would ascend into heaven and resume the _____ that he had enjoyed from the beginning, but his pathway to that glory would be through the cross. From the death of the grain of wheat that new life is born. It is in dying on a cross that Jesus will bring new life to the world.

Jesus wasn't saying that we should be self-centered like that--craving more stuff--wanting more popularity--wanting to be the star of the show. When Jesus said, "He who hates his life in this world will keep it to forever," he was talking about people who are the opposite of _____--the opposite of craving more, more, more--the opposite of those who want to be the star of the show. Jesus was talking about people who care so little about the things of this world that they can follow in his footsteps--people who live their lives in service to others--people who make sacrifices for the cause of Christ--people whose lives are centered on giving instead of taking.

I encourage you to examine your own life, this week. Are you one of those people who thinks, "I hate my life!" Are you unhappy because you aren't rich enough--or thin enough--or talented enough--or sexy enough--or whatever? If so, the world has all sorts of answers for you. It says, "Use this toothpaste!" or "Buy this car!" or "Take this vacation!" The world will tell you that the answer is becoming more self-centered--more grasping--more of a pleasure-seeker.

But Jesus will tell you the exact opposite. His prescription is that the only life worth living is a life of self-giving. Look at the people around you with _____ eyes, and you will see that it's true. Richard Steele said: "We should empty our passions in the service of life, Not spend life in the service of our passions." David Augsburger said: "Happy people seldom think of happiness. They are too busy losing their lives in the meaningful sacrifices of service."

But you will also see people whom you admire for their quiet strength--for their _____--for their happy lives. Look closely, and very often, at their

core, you will find Christ. Jesus said, "If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him." James M. Barrie said: "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others Cannot keep it from themselves." Believe it, because it's true! Do it, and receive the blessing that Jesus promised!

Martin Luther said, "A Christian is the most-free lord of all, And subject to none; A Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, And subject to _____."

A. glory

C. self-centered

E. Israel

B. everyone

D. fresh

F. contentment

C.