

THE CONFUSED CROWD

TWO THINGS WE ARE LEARNING...

1. Crowds are notorious for leading people astray. Watch out!
"The assembly was in confusion: Some were shouting one thing, some another. Most of the people did not even know why they were there." - Acts 19:32
2. If we truly love Jesus, we know what we believe and we stand with Him no matter what the crowd does.

THE REPLY TO THE GREEKS (JOHN 12:20-26)

Jesus cared for the (Gentiles) non-Jews, and it was always God's plan to include them.

"...and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me." - Genesis 22:18

"The Samaritan woman said to him. "You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.)" - John 4:9

"I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." - John 10:16

These Greeks had converted to Judaism.

"Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Feast." - Jn. 12:20

The Greeks went to Philip, who took them to Andrew. Both of these names are Greek names.

Andrew was known for taking people to Jesus.

"The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ)." - John 1:41

"Another of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up. "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" - Jn. 6:8

"Jesus replied." indicates the Greeks had a sincere question.

"Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." - John 12:23

Jesus probably thrilled the crowd and then confuses them with His claim to be the Son of Man, but then to speak of His death.

"Jesus replied. "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." - John 12:23

"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into His presence. ¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will never be destroyed." - Daniel 7:13-14

Jesus told of His plan to die so that all who believe may live.

"But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." - 1 Corinthians 15:20

Our Goal: (vs. 25-26)

To place our lives in Christ (die in Him) and live for Him. To follow Christ and serve Him.

The Result: (vs. 26)

God will honour those who serve Christ. *Whose praise are you seeking?*

"...for they loved praise from men more than praise from God."

- John 12:43

THE VOICE FROM HEAVEN (JOHN 12:27-33)

Jesus was troubled deeply within Himself. (psyche)

Jesus asked an important question: *"What shall I say?"*

"Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!" - John 12:27,28

Jesus confirmed His purpose on earth — to die for sin.

He asked the Father to glorify Himself through His death and the Father confirmed that He would do just that. (John 11:40)

An audible voice from God is heard three times in the Gospels:

- At Jesus' baptism, to confirm that He was the Messiah.
- At Jesus' transfiguration, to confirm that He was God.
- At Jesus' entry to Jerusalem, to confirm that He was Saviour.

The voice from heaven confuses the crowd; it confirmed the faith of the Apostles; and it gave confidence to Jesus.

Jesus speaks boldly, explaining what will happen next:

- Now is the time for judgment of the world.
- Now is the time for the prince of this world to be driven out. *Satan is always being driven out!*
- And, when Jesus is lifted up, mankind can finally know God.

"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up."

- John 3:14

"So Jesus said. "When you have lifted up the Son of Man..."

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THE CONFUSION OF THE CROWD (JOHN 12:34)

The crowd "corrected" Jesus and the plan for the Son of Man.

The crowd that was praising Him began to turn on Him almost immediately. *"Who is this 'Son of Man'?"*

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