



SERMON TITLE: The Glory of the Cross

DATE: May 17, 2020

SCRIPTURE: John 12:27-36

PASTOR: Charlie Boyd

---

"These things are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ" (John 20:31). This is how John concludes his own biography of Jesus. He wanted the young, the old, the sick, the well, the despairing, the hopeful, the skeptics, the faithful, and whoever reads his account of Jesus to believe and trust him more fully. But what did John want them to believe? He wanted them to believe that Jesus alone brought eternal life into the present, broken world. And for all who enter this eternal life with God right now, we—like John—are exiles. For all who enter a relationship with Jesus, we will very likely be marginalized and dismissed because we follow him. So, what does it mean to believe? And how do we mature in believing? What does it mean to remain faithful to God when the pressure is on? These are the things that John will help us explore by showing us the glory and beauty of Jesus.

---

Here are the main call-outs that were on the screen for today's message.

In and only in the Cross do you see God's justice and his love glorified at the same time.

- (1) The glory of the Cross shows us the glory of God (12:27-30). Tim Keller puts it—"Only the cross shows you a God so holy he had to die and so loving he was glad to die."
- (2) Three things happened on the Cross that show us the glory of God (12:31-33)
  - #1—The world is judged (31a).
  - #2—Satan is defeated (31b)
  - #3—All people are now invited (32).

God sent Jesus to save the world from God's judgment—meaning—God will deal with and ultimately dismantle the presence of evil in the world—that dismantling began at the Cross.

The Cross reveals the glory of God because, through the Cross, the world is judged, Satan is defeated, and all people are invited to come into the light by believing in Jesus.

---

Discussion Starters:

READ 12:27-36

- When you think of "glory" what comes to mind? ...
- Even though you might not say it this way, outside of God, what is "glorious" to you? ...
- Why is "glory" such a hard thing to put into words when it comes to God?
- Why is God's glory not just religious jargon? ...
- Why should "glorying" in the glory of God be our highest priority?
- How does all this talk about "glory" intersect with what Jesus says about the Cross?
- Why must we see the Cross—the death of Christ—as "glorious"?
- What does "We see the glory of God in the Cross of Christ" mean?
- What difference in your life would it make if the glory of God is your highest priority?