



Chapter 12

The King who will die The King's Road to Glory



Introduction:

- Jesus knew His final week had arrived. Unlike anyone else in history, He walked deliberately toward the cross.
- In spite of the crowd's attempts to make him king, Jesus chose the way of the cross.

Highlights:

Party at Bethany - preparation to die (1–11)

- Which person(s) do you appreciate: Mary, who loved giving; Jesus, who appreciated receiving; or Judas, who looked only at the cost? Explain why (v. 1-8). Verse 7 is crucial.
- Why does John expose Judas' real motive? Is it to show

Contract on Lazarus

- Why did the chief priest decide they had to kill Lazarus, too? Was it to show that not everyone who appears religious truly loves Christ?
- With Lazarus running around as proof of Jesus' deity, it was causing more people to believe in Jesus (v. 17-19).
- The religious leaders never deny the miracle. Instead, they decide to eliminate the evidence.
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Palm Branch Parade: *Hosanna to the King*

- The crowd's shouts convince the leadership to get rid of Jesus quickly – why?
- Palm branches were used for several occasions – what are they? (v. 13)

Observation:

The crowd expected: Political victory.

Jesus came to bring: Spiritual salvation.

- Jesus rode a donkey to fulfill the Old Testament prophecy

- Many expected liberation from Rome.
- Jesus offered liberation from sin.

Greeks Seek Jesus (12:20-26)

- The Gospel moving beyond Israel.
- That fits perfectly with John 10: Other sheep I have...

Dying to live

- To illustrate his death, Jesus talked about wheat – how does the example fit into what was about to happen to Jesus on the cross? (v. 24)
- Jesus taught that we must die to our own self-interests and put our trust in Jesus to gain eternal life

A word from the sponsor, God

- In response to Jesus' prayer, John mentions that God spoke audibly. What was people's reaction? (v. 28-29)

People heard the same voice. Yet interpreted it differently.

- 'If such a voice were heard today, what would people say?'

Fear of Peers

- Why were those who knew the truth afraid of the leaders? (v. 42-43)

John 12 concludes with belief, light, life, and judgment, rather than ending on fear.

Questions

- How do we respond when God leads us differently from what we expected?
- What does it mean practically to "die to ourselves" in order to follow Christ?
- Why did the crowd expect Jesus to be their victorious king?
- Why do some people believe, while others reject Jesus, even after seeing the same evidence?