

The Praise Craze

1. Discuss the prayer of Jesus in verses 27 and 28. What does this tell you about Jesus' motives? Share some things we might want the Father to save us from, yet what He might be using to glorify Himself.
2. What was the purpose of the voice from heaven? How do you think the voice was a benefit to those who heard it (v. 28-30)?
3. What did it mean that Jesus would be "lifted up"? What were the responses of the people? Does God sometimes do things differently than our expectations? Explain. (v. 32-34)
4. What was the purpose of the two quotes from Isaiah? What do you think about the blinding of the eyes?
5. How could "believers" not confess Him (v. 42,43)? Why did they fear people more than God? In what ways do people do this today?
6. If Jesus does not judge the unbelievers (v. 47), how are the unbelievers judged (v. 48)? What would it be like to be so obedient to the Father as to be able to make the claims Jesus did in verses 49 and 50?

²⁷Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify Your name."

Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."

²⁹Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him."

³⁰Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. ³²And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself." ³³This He said, signifying by what death He would die.

³⁴The people answered Him, "We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?"

³⁵Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. ³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them.

³⁷But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

"Lord, who has believed our report?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"

³⁹Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

⁴⁰He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,
Lest they should see with their eyes,

Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,
So that I should heal them."

⁴¹These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

⁴²Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

⁴⁴Then Jesus cried out and said, "He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me. ⁴⁵And he who sees Me sees Him who sent Me. ⁴⁶I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. ⁴⁷And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. ⁴⁹For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

Comfort in Crisis

Read: John 13:18-30, 36-14:6**Monday**

13:18-22 — What Book of the Old Testament did Jesus quote from? Who is Jesus talking about here? Why do you think the disciples were perplexed? What does this tell you about the betrayer? What does this tell you about outward appearances?

Tuesday

13:23-27 — Which disciple do you think leaned on Jesus? What do you think about Satan entering Judas? What do you think Judas did to give Satan such an invitation? Do you think Judas knew that Jesus was aware of his plan? If so, why do you think Judas went ahead with it?

Wednesday

13:28-30 — It seems that the disciples still did not think the betrayer was Judas. List some of the things that Judas would have done alongside the disciples that gave the impression that he was not the logical one to betray Jesus. What is significant about the fact that it was night? Does it seem that evil does its best work in the dark?

Thursday

13:36-38 — Jesus had just mentioned that He was going to leave. What was Peter's response? What do you think it was like to be told that you would deny Jesus? What do you think made Peter think he would lay down his life for Jesus? Why do you think this did not happen, when Peter thought it would?

Friday

14:1-3—Why would their hearts be troubled? What words of comfort did Jesus use? How do those facts comfort you personally? He is preparing for you; are you preparing for Him?

Saturday

14:4-6 — What is significant about verse 6? How could you use this verse to share the gospel with someone? Why would some people consider it to be intolerant? What do you think about the claim of Jesus?