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When I Am Lifted Up

John 12:32-36

I. The Divine Atonement of the Cross (vv. 32-33)

A. The _____ of Jesus' death (Jn. 3:14; 8:28)

B. The _____ of Jesus' words (Jn. 1:12-13; 6:44)

II. The Doubting Assessment of the Crowd (v. 34)

A. The _____ understanding (Psa. 72:17;
Isa. 9:7; Ezek. 37:25; Dan. 7:13-14; Mic. 4:7)

B. The _____ dilemma (Jn. 12:7, 8, 24;
Psa. 22; Isa. 53)

III. The Deep-rooted Answer of the Christ (vv. 35-36)

A. The real issue is not a theological debate, but a theological
_____ (Jn. 1:4-5; 8:12; 3:19-20)

B. The real issue is about not being overcome by the darkness, but
_____ in the light
(Matt. 6:22-23; Prov. 2:13-14; 1 Jn. 1:6; Eph. 5:11; Matt. 8:12;
Eph. 5:8-9; 1 Thes. 5:5; 1 Jn. 1:7; Matt. 5:14-16)

C. The real issue is about _____ in the light
while you have the light (Jn. 8:21; 13:36; 16:16; 2 Cor. 6:2;
Heb. 3:7-8; 12:16-17; Psa. 81:11-12)

TAKE HOME

- Do you see how ***everything*** in the Christian life hinges on the fact that Jesus must be lifted up from the earth?
- Do you have ***areas*** of the Scripture that you are willing to believe and follow and other areas that you are not?
- Do you see that not only does God call you to believe in the truth of His Word but also to ***walk*** in the light of Jesus Christ?

STUDY QUESTIONS

James 1:22 says, *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* These questions are designed to help you apply today’s message to your life. We encourage you to thoughtfully answer these questions and discuss your answers with others. For more information about joining a Small Group that uses these questions as the basis for discussion, prayer, and accountability, please call the church office at (661) 259-2913.

1. Read John 12:32-33. What is Jesus saying in these verses? Where else do we see similar language? (Jn. 3:14; 8:28) Why is the mode of Jesus’ death significant?

2. Read John 1:12-14 and John 6:44. How do these verses help us better understand what Jesus means when He says that He “will draw all people to myself.”

3. Read John 12:34. What was the Jewish understanding of the role of the coming Messiah? (Psa. 72:17; Isa. 9:7; Ezek. 37:25; Dan. 7:13-14; Mic. 4:7) Were they correct?

4. Read John 12:7, 8, 24. What was Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 about? Are we also guilty of reading/believing/living out part of God’s Word but not all of it?

5. Read John 12:35-36. How does Jesus answer the Jew’s question? Why does He answer it in this way? (Jn. 1:4-5; 8:12; 3:19-20)

6. What was the real issue? How can we avoid being overcome by the darkness but instead walk in the light?

7. How is the urgency of this communicated? Read 2 Cor. 6:2; Heb. 3:7-8; Psa. 81:11-12. How do these passages challenge us to respond to God’s call in our lives today? What happened to Esau? (Heb. 12:16-17)

8. Read the take home questions. Which one challenges you or encourages you the most? Why? How will you live your life differently this week based on the fact that Jesus was lifted up from the earth?

“The Lord seemed to liken Himself to the sun and to the daylight it offers. The sun rises in the morning, reaches its peak at noon, and descends over the horizon in the evening. It is only with us for a limited number of hours. We should avail ourselves of it while it is here, because when the night comes, we do not have the benefit of it. Spiritually, the one who believes on the Lord Jesus is the one who walks in the light. The one who rejects Him walks in darkness and does not know where he is going. He lacks divine guidance, and stumbles through life.”

- William McDonald, *Believer’s Bible Commentary*