

Sermon Study Guide – March 17th, 2024

"Rethinking Religion: Total Commitment"

1) Thoughts to get you started...

- ◆ What does “total commitment” look like for... The athlete? You in your job? Any one of us in the practice of our faith?
- ◆ Jesus was “totally committed” in his work to save us... but what made it different than our forms of commitment? For that matter, how can we be sure he is totally committed to us?

2) Today’s Message: John 12:20-33 (see bulletin for full text)

²⁰ Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. ²¹ They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” ²² Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus. ²³ Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, 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. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me. ²⁷ “Now my soul 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. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him. ³⁰ Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine. ³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up^[g] from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.

3) What does God want you to hear today?

Throughout the sermon, consider...

How does today’s sermon show your sin? (i.e. What’s the law?)

How does today’s sermon show your Savior? (i.e. What’s the gospel?)

Law:

Gospel:

Answer the following questions if it helps you follow the sermon...

1. Describe the commitment of the Greeks in our text.
2. How does Jesus explain commitment in following him?
3. How does today's sermon lead us to "rethink religion" and what we get out of our faith?
4. How did Jesus' sense of commitment to us exceed our commitment to him?
5. How did Jesus work on the cross earn for us a better kind of glory than any other glory we seek on this earth?
6. How can we follow Christ's example by seeing that we are "made for this hour" (rather than just asking God to "save us" from a difficult hour)?

4) Taking it Home:

Read these sections of the Bible to reinforce this week's truths:

Monday: *review* Exodus 2:1-15, Psalm 37 **Thursday:** John 15

Tuesday: *read/review* Hebrews 5 **Friday:** Exodus 12

Wednesday: Deuteronomy 6 **Saturday:** *read/review* John 12:20-36