

John 12:23-26

John 12:23 – *“And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.”*

- A. The hour is come (**John 2:1-4, John 7:30, and John 8:20**).
 - 1. This is not a literal hour in the sense of 60 minutes as the events leading to the death of our Lord took more than an hour (**Matthew 26:45-27:2**).
 - 2. “The hour” is a phrase used to indicate that His time of death is drawing near (**Mark 14:41 and Luke 22:14-16**).
 - 3. This phrase (“the hour”) is used to describe more than the death of Christ (**Matthew 25:13, John 4:21-24, John 5:28-29, and Revelation 3:10**).
- B. Jesus Christ is the “Son of man” (**Matthew 18:11, Matthew 20:18, Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:33, Luke 9:22, Luke 12:8, Luke 19:10, and Luke 24:7**; cf. **Acts 13:27-33 and I Corinthians 15:3**).
 - 1. Jesus was in the flesh as a child of man (**Jeremiah 33:15-17, Matthew 1:1, and Luke 1:31-32**).
 - 2. This does not mean He was not the “only begotten” Son of God (**John 1:18, John 3:16-18, and I John 4:9**).
 - 3. In fact, He used the phrase “Son of man” when talking of His powers as deity (**Matthew 9:6 and Matthew 12:8**).
- C. It was time for Jesus to be glorified (**John 17:1, John 17:5, and Acts 3:13**).
 - 1. Glory belongs to God (**Romans 15:6, I Corinthians 10:31, and Jude 25**).
 - 2. Jesus is God (**Matthew 1:23, John 5:16-18, John 8:56-58, John 20:26-29, Acts 20:28, Romans 9:1-5, I Timothy 3:16, Titus 2:13, Hebrews 1:8-9, and I John 5:20**), thus it is fitting that He is glorified (**Hebrews 13:21 and II Peter 3:18**).
 - 3. The Father certainly wants His Son glorified (**II Peter 1:17**).
 - 4. When Christ is glorified so is the Father (**John 13:31-32, Romans 16:27, and Philippians 2:11**).

John 12:24 – *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”*

- A. Jesus had to die (**John 3:14-17**; cf. **John 12:32-33**).
 - 1. We can be saved because of His death (**Romans 5:10**).
 - 2. We must also recall that our salvation requires not just His death; but also His burial (**I Corinthians 15:1-4**), resurrection (**I Corinthians 15:17-22**), ascension (**Ephesians 4:8-10**), and His return (**I Peter 1:3-10**).
 - 3. Yet, if we are disobedient, all that Jesus did so that we can be saved will be for naught (**Hebrews 5:8-9 and II Thessalonians 1:7-9**).
- B. By Jesus carrying out the will of the Father (**John 5:36**), much fruit came forth (**John 6:39**).
 - 1. Sins can be remitted (**Matthew 26:28 and Revelation 1:5**).

2. The church of Christ was established (**Matthew 16:18, Acts 20:28, and Ephesians 5:25**).
3. Finally, though many sub points could be made, a new law came into effect (**Hebrews 9:15-22**).

John 12:25-26 – *“(25) He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. (26) If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.”*

- A. We have to surrender our lives to Christ to be saved (**Matthew 16:24-27**).
 1. This means that Christ always comes first (**Luke 9:57-62** and **Colossians 3:1-4**).
 2. If one is not willing to give all for our Lord, they cannot be saved (**Matthew 19:16-30** and **Luke 14:25-33**).
- B. Christians are servants of Christ (**Romans 1:1, Colossians 3:24, and Colossians 4:12**).
 1. This requires self-denial (**Mark 8:34** and **Luke 9:23-24**).
 2. This requires us to follow in the steps of Christ (**Philippians 2:4-11, I Peter 2:21, and I Peter 4:1-2**).
- C. We will receive honor from our heavenly Father (**Romans 2:10** and **I Peter 5:4**).
 1. When serving Christ faithfully, we can know we’ll eventually be in Heaven with Him (**John 14:1-3**).
 2. That being said, we have to remind ourselves that we cannot “earn” Heaven regardless of how hard we work as servants for Christ (**Luke 17:7-10** and **Ephesians 2:5-10**; cf. **I Corinthians 15:9-10**).