

John 12:20

(1)

Think about [John 12:20-23](#).

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified."

Note: The name "Greeks" refers to people who were not Jews; they were Gentiles.

- Why were these Greeks at the Jew's Passover feast in Jerusalem?
- What do you think, why did these Greeks want to meet Jesus?
Consider: [Matthew 21:7-11](#). *They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he (Jesus) sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."*
- Is God the God of the Jews only?
Consider: [Romans 10:11-13](#). *For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him (the Lord Jesus) will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*
- When Jesus was told that Greeks wanted to meet him, what did he say? (See John 12:20-23 quoted above.)
- The crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus were the beginning of him being glorified. ([John 17:1-5](#))
How does this allow all humans to come and know him?
Consider: [John 12:32-33](#). (Jesus said) *And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all [men] unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.*

(2)

Think about [John 12:23-24](#).

And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

- What did Jesus mean when he said: "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified"? Consider: [John 12:27-33](#). (Jesus said) *"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ... And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.*
- Jesus tells the truth about what a grain of wheat must do to bear fruit. How does this apply to what he had to do? (See John 12:23-24 quoted above.)

Consider: [Isaiah 53:10-11](#) [New Living Translation]. *But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. ... When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish, he will be satisfied. And because of his experience, my righteous servant will make it possible for many to be counted righteous, for he will bear all their sins.*

(3)

Think about [John 12:25-26](#).

(Jesus said) Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

Note:

This word "loves" means: to treat with tender care, from a desire to keep from injury or destruction.

This word "hates" means: to love less, to neglect, to disregard because something is of little value and unworthy of notice.

- How would someone love their life in this world? How would someone hate their life in this world?

Consider: [Luke 9:22-25](#). (Jesus said) *"The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself?"*

- How did Jesus hate his life in this world?

Consider: [Isaiah 50:6-7](#). *I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting. But the Lord GOD helps me; ... therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.*

- What is the outcome for one who loves their life in this world? What is the outcome for one who, for the Christ's sake, hates their life in this world? (See John 12:25-26 quoted above.)

Consider: [Matthew 10:38-39](#). (Jesus said) "... whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

- What is true of anyone who is truly serving the Christ, Jesus? (See John 12:25-26 quoted above.)

Consider: [John 15:18-20](#). (Jesus said to his students) "*If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.*" ...
