

We Die To Glorify!
John 12:20-28

Observations

Today, throughout the world, is a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, as we ponder our own families' survival from the COVID-19 pandemic

While we do take part in that celebration, it is different for us because we observe it WEEKLY as the New Testament Christians observed, not yearly (Early Christians called it "the Lord's Day," making no special Sunday a distinction)

The uniqueness of this observance is pivotal for every Christian

Paul wrote to the Corinthians that if there is no resurrection, then our preaching and our faith is useless, 1 Corinthians 15:14

**But Christ Will Show Us That In His Death,
There Is Life (Die First, Then Live) And
Ours, If We Submit To His Will**

“Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival (Passover). They came to Phillip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. “Sir,” they said, “we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.” John 12:20-22

**Jesus Uses This Greek Inquiry To Teach A Lasting
Lesson To His Disciples And To Us**

The Greeks' Desire To Meet Jesus Was Supposed to Be an Honor

In verses 17-19, it was obvious that Jesus' fame was at an all-time high

In verse 13, as Jesus was on the road into Jerusalem, the people had taken palm branches off of trees, waving them reverentially at Him

What a great time for Jesus to put Himself on display (glorify Himself; remember Satan had already tried that one in Matthew 4:1-11)

“thou shalt not tempt the Lord” (Don't voluntarily place yourself in a dangerously selfish situation, and demand the God's help (adultery, drugs, premarital sex, lie)

Jesus even answers his disciples on that occasion in verse 23, *“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”*

But Notice What He Says Next, Which Is The Key To His Idea Of His Glorification!

“Very truly I say unto 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. Anyone who loves His life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will be. My father will honor the one who serves me.” John 12:24-26

Jesus Says I Must Die To Glorify (Put His Father On Display)

Jesus says that the purpose of a seed is to be buried in the ground where it can germinate and grow into something productive

Jesus wanted His disciples to know that His purpose in coming into the world would be fulfilled by His dying

Satan did not want Him to die to glorify, knowing what would happen if He did (Literally all of HELL would break loose, because He would be the firstborn from the dead, Colossians 1:18)

Matthew 16:21-23

“From that time on Jesus began to explain to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you.”

Matthew 16:21-23

“Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human (selfish) concerns.”

Jesus Recognized That Satan Did Not Want Him To Die (Submit, Sacrifice Himself)

Guess What?

Satan Does Not Want Us To Die Either!

In Order To Truly Live *We Must Die First!*

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10

BUT

**OUR DYING IS CRUCIAL
TO OUR LIVING!**

***WE HAVE TO GROW
TO APPRECIATE GOD'S
GLORIFICATION IN
OUR OWN
CRUCIFIXION!***

Galatians 2:20

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

The Point is: If I die, Jesus Lives!

Observations

**To truly live as a parent you have to die as a parent
(make tremendous sacrifices of your time, money, effort)
and as a result, your children live**

**To truly live as God's Husband/Wife, you have to die as
God's Husband/Wife – and your marriage will flourish**

**When marriages don't do well, someone has not died
(sacrificed/been crucified, been obedient to their cross)**

**When sacrificing in a marriage, it may not be a 50/50
proposition. It may be 80/20 for a long time....**

Jesus, In This Story, Makes A Distinction Between Self-Love And Love That Glorifies God, John 12:25

“Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”

Our Definition Of Glorifying Is Not God's Definition! (It's Self-Love)

How much money do I have

How much fame do I have, "*What's my title?*"

How much influence do I have

How much beauty do I have

How much athletic skill am I known for

We Seek To Gratify The Flesh/Pride

One woman starves herself to death for looks and self-esteem

Another man eats himself to death and health issues follow

Another man drinks himself to death and His family suffers

**We Want to Squeeze As Much Of Life For Ourselves As We Can
Before Death! 1 Corinthians 15:33**

Verse 28: *“Father Glorify Your Name”*

**Can We Pray The Prayer of Jesus?
Or Is Our Prayer Like This:**

“Father, put me on display through my blessings”

“Father, put me on display through my looks”

“Father, put me on display with what I own”

“Father, put me on display with what I drive/live”

“Father, put me on display with my good health”

“Father, put me on display in my marriage”

“Father, put me on display with my kids”

Jesus Commands Us to “glorify your Father which is in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

“Lord, I have chronic pain. Doctors say I will have to live with it. May I put you on display (glorify you with it)?”

“Lord, I have an uncertain future. They are laying people off where I work. May I put you on display (glorify you) in my waiting?”

“Lord, I deal with developmental disabilities every day. May I put you on display (glorify you) with my issues?”

“Lord, I wrestle with decisions about my aged parents every day. May I put you on display (glorify you) with the decisions I make for them and me?”

“Father, glorify your name in my sufferings!”

“Father, You know how I miss my spouse/parents. May I put you on display (glorify you) with how I live with that?”

“Father, You know how I miss my child! May I put you on display (glorify you) with how I live that out?”

“Father, I have chronic medical problems in need of chronic medications. May I put you on display (glorify you) with how to live with them?”

“Father, I may acquire the Coronavirus. I don’t know. But may I put you on display (glorify you) with how I deal with that?”

“Father, I have one wife that I love. May I put you on display (glorify you) by being faithful to her when we are apart? May my consistent years of faithfulness to her represent your faithfulness to me?” May I die to myself to glorify you in the way I make sacrifices for her?”

Look at Romans 6:6

“For we know that our old self was crucified (we died) with Him so that the body ruled by Him might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—”

Colossians 3:1-3

“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”

In Other Words, You Died To Live!

Remember the First Inquiry of the Greeks to the Disciples:

“We Would Like To See Jesus”

The world, your friends, co-workers, your family would like to see Jesus today

Hear is Jesus' plea: They can see Him IF WE DIE

They can see Him if we surrender our habits to Him

They can see Him if we surrender our selfish lives to Him

It's all about Him and He says, *“If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me” John 12:32*

The Plan Of Salvation (How We Surrender)

Hear the Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38