

## John 12:20-50 – The Hour has Come

A crowd of people welcomed Jesus as he went to Jerusalem. They said, “save now” and proclaimed him to be “the King of Israel”. The Pharisees, who wanted to kill Jesus, said that the world had gone after Jesus. Matthew covers the time between the Triumphal Entry and the Last Supper in chapters 21-26. Mark covers this time period in chapters 11-14. Luke covers this time in chapters 19-22. John only has one chapter, chapter 12, which covers the time between the Triumphal Entry and just before the Last Supper. Unlike the other Gospels, John spent a lot more “ink” on the Last Supper than he did on the week leading up to it.

**Read John 12:20-26.**

Some Greeks (or Gentile proselytes) came to Phillip and asked to see Jesus. What is the significance of this? (12:20-22)

How did Jesus respond to the request? What was Jesus’ “hour”? Jesus used the illustration of a grain of wheat to talk about his coming death. What would happen if Jesus did not die? Why was the result of Jesus’ death? (12:23-24)

So far, the Gospel of John has focused on who Jesus is, and that people need to believe and receive him. The five witnesses of Jesus provided evidence that Jesus is who he says he is. Now Jesus changed focus and talked about people who believe in him and who serve him. What is true of people who truly believe in Jesus? (12:25-26)

**Read John 12:27-36.**

Jesus knew that he needed to lay down his life for his sheep. Jesus was troubled about what would soon happen. What does this say about Jesus? Even though Jesus knew he was about to face torture and death, what was his perspective about these coming events? (12:27-28a)

Just as God the Father had testified at Jesus’ baptism, God the Father testified to Jesus in the week before his death. What did the crowd think about this testimony? (12:28b-30)

From verses 31-32, what three things would happen in Jesus’ “hour”?

The crowd asked a good question. They knew from passages like Psalm 89:4, 36, Isaiah 9:7 and Daniel 7:14 that the Messiah's kingdom would not end. What titles did this group of people use to refer to Jesus? Why were the people confused? (12:34)

How did Jesus respond to their question concerning "Who is this Son of Man"? (12:35-36)

**Read John 12:37-43.**

Jesus performed many signs before the people but many of them still did not believe. Why didn't they believe? What scripture was fulfilled by their unbelief? (12:37-41)

Some people did believe including some rulers of the Jews. Why were these believing rulers afraid to confess Jesus openly? (12:42-43)

**Read John 12:44-50.**

What is true of those who believe in Jesus? (12:44, 46) What is true of those who do not believe? (12:47-48)

How did Jesus reveal God the Father to those who had ears to hear and eyes to see? (12:45, 49-50)

Why did Jesus come to earth? (12:47)

Why can people be confident in what Jesus said? (12:49-50)