

“All Peoples Drawn to Christ”

John 12:19-23; also :32-33

¹⁹ The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, “You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!”

²⁰ Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. ²¹ Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²² Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. ²³ But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.** John 12:19–23 (NKJV)**

³² And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” ³³ This He said, signifying by what death He would die. John 12:32–33 (NKJV)

Most of us here and probably in most churches, are not Jewish by nationality, but are everything else, according to the Bible, we are Gentiles ---

The Bible speaks to us, who are Gentiles and we are told Jesus Christ, God’s Son died for us too -

- I. Part of the Pharisee’s frustration is not just seeing crowds flocking to Jesus, but also foreigners, Greeks were going to Him –*

¹⁹ The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, “You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!”

²⁰ Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast.

- 1. The word “world” in John ‘s writings is a very interesting word, because it has different meanings –*

- A. When John in **1 John 2:15-17** tells us to “**love not the world**” he is referring to this world in contrast to God and Heaven, we are to despise the world, our present life, because it is temporary, and contaminated by sin!*

B. Yet, another way “world” is used is as it is used here by the Pharisees, **“Look, the world has gone after Him”** here in verse :19 they are referring to the fact Greek, or Gentiles, and not only Jesus were coming to Jesus.

C. When Jesus says in **John 3:16**, **“For God so loved the world...”** He means not just the Jews, but the rest of “the world” the Gentiles as well.

II. *It was always God’s plan that Jesus Christ would save the Greeks / the Gentiles –*

⁶ Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ” Isaiah 49:6 (NKJV)

1. *Isaiah the Prophet, lived and prophesied about Jesus more than 700 years before Jesus came to earth, before Jesus was born as a human being.*

2. *Saving the Gentiles was not PLAN B!*

Some theologians, called “Dispensationalists” believe saving the Gentiles was PLAN B. Jesus failed with the Jews and so changes His plan ...

3. *Isaiah 49:6 tells us differently, -*

⁶ Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant To raise up the tribes of Jacob, And to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ” Isaiah 49:6 (NKJV)

In this verse we read of God the Father speaking to God the Son and He is saying it is TOO SMALL A THING, for Jesus, God’s Servant to save only Israel ---

4. *Jesus' death saves people from all parts of the world –*

⁹ And they sang a new song, saying: “You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, Revelation 5:9 (NKJV)

A church in the Philippines was flooded but they still met for worship...No more excuses. How hungry are you for God? @TheChristFanatic



One of the great LIES Satan is telling today is that Christianity is an American or white European religion.

It is NOT!

People world-wide worship our Lord Jesus Christ!

*Jesus has **redeemed us to God by (HIS)***

blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, Revelation 5:9 (NKJV)

5. *The Greeks in **John 12:20** came to worship at the feast!*

Yet, they are also ascribing worth to Christ by seeking Him out!

III. This was Jesus' hour –

²³ But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. John 12:23 (NKJV)

1. In other portions of the Book of John Jesus says it is NOT His hour –

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. ³ And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.” John 2:1–4 (NKJV)****

⁶ Then Jesus said to them, “My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. ⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it that its works are evil. ⁸ You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come.” John 7:6–8 (NKJV)

2. Here the coming of the Greeks to Him SEEMS to mark His “hour”

It is not the first time we see foreigners coming to our Lord Jesus Christ -

A. The wise men from the East came at His birth –

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.” Matthew 2:1–2 (NKJV)

B. Here the Greeks arrival seems to signal the soon coming hour of Jesus Christ's death, in verses :24 - :31 verses I have skipped today, because I plan on preaching on them next week, Jesus speaks about His death on the cross ... here suffice it to say, His death is at least part of His glorification!

C. Jesus' death (saving a lost world) His resurrection (proving Him God's Man and God's Son) and His ascension into Heaven, to God's right hand, these things are for Christ's glory!

IV. The drawing power of Christ's death on the cross –

³² And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” ³³ This He said, signifying by what death He would die. John 12:32–33 (NKJV)

1. Lifted up, like the bronze serpent in the wilderness –

¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. John 3:14–17 (NKJV)

2. The POWER of the cross is a wonderful, drawing, saving POWER –

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written: “*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.*” ²⁰ Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe. ²² For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek after wisdom; ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 1 Corinthians 1:18–25 (NKJV)

1. To the Jews the cross was a stumbling block –

⁴⁸ If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.” John 11:48 (NKJV)

A. The Jewish leaders understood Jesus was preaching against sin!

B. He was not preaching overthrow of the Roman Empire ...

C. *His death (His cross) they thought of as a solution but only because they thought it would get rid of Him, not their sin!*

2. *To the Greeks, at least many, the cross was foolishness – Our current day ungodly call it “child abuse” Our current day ungodly think themselves SUPERIOR and Intelligent in their atheism ...*

3. *But God’s people are drawn to Christ’s cross as to something beautiful –*
⁹ But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” ¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:9–10 (NKJV)

4. *Saving of the Gentiles makes us a part of that glorious new Temple / the church –* **¹¹ Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands—¹² that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, ¹⁵ having abolished in His flesh the enmity, *that is*, the law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man *from* the two, *thus* making peace, ¹⁶ and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. ¹⁷ And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. Ephesians 2:11-22 (NKJV)**