

“Really Loving Jesus Gains You Everything!” John 14:21-31

Where we are now in John’s Gospel is between two loud cries:

First, Palm Sunday praise in John 12 –

¹² The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³ took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ The King of Israel!” John 12:12–13 (NKJV)

Second, the Good Friday cries of “crucify Him” in John 19 –

¹⁴ Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, “Behold your King!” ¹⁵ But they cried out, “Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!” Pilate said to them, “Shall I crucify your King?” The chief priests answered, “We have no king but Caesar!” John 19:14–15 (NKJV)

Now we are closer to the crucify Him! Crucify Him cries!

What happened?

Short answer, people who wanted Jesus to save them from Rome, did not think they NEEDED salvation from SIN!

What is scary is it seems some of the same people who cried “Hosanna” may have also cried “crucify Him!”

I. Keeping Jesus’ and God’s (God the Father’s) Commands –

²¹ **He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”** John 14:21 (NKJV)

1. *Who loves Jesus?*

A. *He who shouts “hosanna?” – John 12:12-13 ↑ Maybe?*

B. *Definitely NOT the one who cries “crucify Him!”*

C. *Not the wonder working seeming super Christians who don’t do God’s will –*

²¹ **“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. ²² Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’** Matthew 7:21–23 (NKJV)

Answer: The one who has Jesus’ commands and keeps them, loves Jesus - :21

2. *What does it mean to have Jesus’ commands?*

“To “have” his commands means to be properly instructed in them” John Calvin

A. *Having Jesus’ commands means we understand them, we know them, we know them to be ours, commands to us! The Greek word translated “has” in regard to Jesus’ commands is ἔχων which is a form of ἔχω echo.*

B. *If we have Christ's commandments, we are able to echo them back to Him, because we know them!*

C. *This is so extremely important, because we tend to get God's commands wrong. Eve did this even before sin.*

² And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³ but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' " Genesis 3:2-3 (NKJV)

Note what Eve did, she added to God's command, God did tell them not to eat of the tree in the midst of the garden, but He was not so strict to say that they should not touch it...

Maybe this is at least partly why Eve fell? The Devil suggested God's commands were unnecessary, too strict, and her making the one command they had, just a bit stricter than it actually was, was going along with the Devil / the serpent / Satan.

D. *No where in Scripture does God tell us "Thou shalt not drink wine!" In fact, wine is called a blessing to man –*

¹⁴ He causes the grass to grow for the cattle, And vegetation for the service of man, That he may bring forth food from the earth, ¹⁵ And wine that makes glad the heart of man, Oil to make his face shine, And bread which strengthens man's heart. Psalm 104:14-15 (NKJV)

Now, God condemns drunkenness, and some will decide not to drink, and that is okay, but do not preach that God condemns drinking wine, because He does not, that is distorting God's Word.

3. *What does it mean to keep Jesus' / God's commands?*

A. *Keeping God's / Jesus' commands means obeying them, doing them ---*

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. James 1:22 (NKJV)

B. *Keeping God's Law means delighting in it –*

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:2 (NKJV)

C. *Obedience to God's Law is not only LOVE to God and Jesus but it is LOVE PERIOD –*

⁸ Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. Romans 13:8-10 (NKJV)

In talking about love, the Apostle Paul takes us back to some of the Ten Commandments :9 If you love your husband or wife, you stay faithful to them - "You shall not commit adultery,"

*The Book / Movie – the Bridges of Madison County makes out that **love is adultery**, it is NOT!*

4. *Keeping God's commands, means you do not replace God's written commands with pictures / statues, idols –*

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. Exodus 20:4–6 (NKJV)

A. *Those who make statues, carved images, any supposed likeness of God are called those who hate Me – Exodus 20:5*

B. *The ones who love God are those who keep His commandments – Exodus 20:6*

II. *Note the great reward / blessing / benefit we have if we keep His commands –*

... And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” John 14:21 (NKJV)

1. *God the Father will love this person, Jesus loves this person, Jesus manifests Himself to the person who loves Him by keeping His commands ...*

2. *Judas (the good one) asks a great question about this manifestation –*

²² Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” John 14:22 (NKJV)

Or how will we see YOU, when the world (the ungodly world) does not?

A. *He seems to figure Jesus is not talking about a physical manifestation.*

B. *He is right –*

3. *Jesus is talking about a spiritual indwelling - and We will come to him and make Our home with him. John 14:23 B*

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—¹⁹ to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:14–19 (NKJV)

4. *God also loves us and manifests Himself to us through providential care and crafting –*

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Romans 8:28–29 (NKJV)

5. An ungodly world misses this:

²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. John 14:24 (NKJV)

A. They do not have a spiritual relationship with God or Christ.

B. They do not keep His commands –

⁷ Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. Romans 8:7–8 (NKJV)

III. God's Holy Spirit Helps us -

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. John 14:25–26 (NKJV)

1. *He teaches all things – John 14:26*

2. *He brings to remembrance – John 14:26*

IV. *We have peace –*

²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. John 14:27 (NKJV)

1. *Peace with God, because of Jesus' death on the cross –*

⁵ Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 5:1 (NKJV)

2. *Peace is something an ungodly world LACKS, therefore we have a monopoly on this great blessing –*

²¹ "There is no peace," Says my God, "for the wicked." Isaiah 57:21 (NKJV)

3. *But it is not God's will we hoard this peace, but share it –*

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." John 20:21 (NKJV)

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Matthew 5:9 (NKJV)

V. *We have Jesus' promised return, and we can rejoice that He is with the Father -*

²⁸ You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. John 14:28 (NKJV)

VI. *We have Him fighting for us against the Devil –*

³⁰ I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. John 14:30 (NKJV)

VII. *We see His LOVE for and OBEDIENCE to the Father –*

³¹ But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here. John 14:31 (NKJV)

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