

***Light In The Darkness***  
***"The Proper Time"***

**John 12:12-22**

Genesis 3:15 says, ***"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your and her seed; He shall crush you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel."***

The Lord spoke these words in the middle of pronouncing judgment on the physical sin (with eternal spiritual consequence) of humanity and the originator of sin spiritually (which will have eternal consequence) in the future. What the Lord is saying is that even though Satan deceived Eve and thereby sin entered the human race, it would also be through the woman that the Redeemer (seed) of the human race would come to destroy sin, death, and Satan.

That prophecy was fulfilled with the virgin birth of Jesus Christ (the seed) through Mary (the woman). The deathblow to sin, death, and Satan was the death of Christ on the cross and His resurrection from the grave.

John chapters 1-11, record the three and a half years of Jesus ministry. John chapters 12-20 record one week.

Jesus came down the Mt. of Olives and entered Jerusalem on the Monday of the week determined by the Father for the prophecy of Genesis 3:15 to be fulfilled in Christ four days later on Passover.

***Jesus Christ operates on a predetermined schedule done at the precise time for the precise purpose.***  
***(John 12:12-22)***

*The timing*

As we come to this portion of John's gospel, it is crucial to get the full picture of what is happening and why it is happening. None of what we read in the Gospels about this event is circumstantial. It is all on time and on purpose, fulfilling every intricate detail of Scripture.

**John 12:14-15** give us the fulfillment of Zachariah's prophecy concerning the way in which the Messiah would enter Jerusalem during His earthly ministry of redemption (***cf. Zachariah 9:9***). Another Old Testament prophecy about Jesus was also fulfilled in this event (***cf. Daniel 9:24a***).

*The Jews*

The Jews (people) were vacillating on Jesus. Most of them were swept up in the potential of Jesus being the one who would overthrow the Romans and set the people free, like all the other false messiahs in Israel's history before and after Jesus had promised to do.

*Jesus*

Jesus made a clear statement about the spiritual condition of the people and the nation in Luke 19 (***cf. Luke 19:41-44***).

The disciples

The people who had believed in Jesus when they saw Him raise Lazarus from the dead were there, testifying about Him and praising Him (v. 17). It is of these people that the Pharisees asked Jesus to rebuke them and silence them. Jesus defended them and said, ***“I tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out.” (Luke 19:40)***

The disciples did not finally understand the significance of what all of this meant until the coming of the Holy Spirit.

True disciples of Jesus persevere in believing in Him. The Lord made this clear in (cf. John 8:31) — a professed faith that does not ***“...bear fruit in keeping with repentance...”*** as John the Baptist preached, is a dead faith, non-saving faith. It is impossible for a true believer in Jesus Christ to fall away from Him permanently (cf. 2 John 9). John described those who prove their faith was never genuine in 1 John (cf. 1 John 2:19).

The Gentiles

These Greeks were most likely Gentiles who had abandoned their pagan practices and were seeking God by adhering to Judaism. They truly wanted to have an audience with Jesus, probably wanting to ask Him questions or simply have the opportunity to meet Him.

Jesus said, ***“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.” (John 6:37)***

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Application Questions

*What does John 12:12-22 teach us about Jesus?*

*Does this truth change the way you think about the Old Testament Scriptures that point to Jesus? If so, how?*

*How does this truth change you?*

Upcoming Events

Women’s Bible Study in the Book of Esther. Thursdays 7:00 PM. 5/16, 5/30 @ C.A.S.T. building.

Men’s Bible Study. Topical Discussion. Wednesday 6:30 PM. 5/22 @ Kevin Hector’s.