

Gospel of John – The Parable of Joy  
Chapter 12

John 12:1-11

1. Six days before Passover. Times are important as they help show the accuracy of Scripture. The banquet was not necessarily on this day.
2. “We could have given it to the poor”. (5) Many ‘good’ things have been said with the wrong intentions. This is why God ‘looks in the heart’ and so should we our own.
3. Lazarus had become something of a star and therefore a threat. I’m not sure how he looked at his situation but once you’ve been to heaven what is there to really fear?

12:12-19

1. “At first the disciples did not understand these things...” (16). John admits he didn’t really know what was going on at the time. So it is with us so many times. Sometimes we feel bad about this but isn’t it better to see it in retrospective than not at all?
2. See Zechariah 9:9 and Rev. 19:11. Compare these with each other, the rabbis teaching at the time, and the cultural significance. It makes a seemingly ‘small’ prophecy take on greater meaning.

12:20-26

1. “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.” (23). We’ve had many “My time has not yet come.” statements. Now the time has come. I never noticed the Gentiles approaching Him being the prompting.

12:27-36

1. “Lifted up” (32). How many times have you heard it said that we should ‘lift up’ Jesus (meaning praise Him) and He would draw all men to Himself? Do you see this misunderstanding as important or does Michael Card make too much of it?
2. I love what he says in the narrative. The opposite of sin used to be ‘being good’. Now the opposite of sin is faith in Jesus. We won’t be condemned for our sin because Jesus paid for it. We will be condemned for refusing to put our faith in Him.

12:37-50

1. I love reading prophecy. Isaiah is a great book for gaining insight into who Christ is.
2. We see many who don’t want to give up who they are in the eyes of the world to follow Christ (42). It’s easy to fall into.
3. Interesting point that those who demand a sign never believe the signs when they come.
4. This is basically the end of Jesus’ public ministry. He ends it by saying “the things I say are just what the Father has said to Me.”