

II. The Glorified King, John 12:20-36

Our conventional idea of kingship is debunked on Palm Sunday; our idea of anointing is debunked on Holy Monday; and today our idea of glory is also debunked.

The Background: “Sir, we would see Jesus”

In John “seeing” unlike “seeking” carries positive connotations.

Jesus’ Response subverts two key terms: Glorification and Exaltation

Glorification refers to his death. But how is death a glorification?

Out of death comes life: the seed analogy

- His death is according to God’s plan
- At the Cross, God love is revealed
- By his death, the prince of this world is defeated

Exaltation on the Cross (v. 32)

Two contrasting images: falling and “lifted up”

Lifted up (Gk. *huphoō*; Latin: *exaltatus*): “exalted” on the Cross

His “enthronement” is intensified in v. 35: “*You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you.*” The light will be extinguished temporarily when the Son of Man is “lifted up”.

Lesson

We need to acquire a new vocabulary to truly understand the ways of God.

The Cross is the most poignant example of Christianity’s inversion of the world’s vocabulary. Beauty shines through the ugliness of the Cross.