

John 12.20-33

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By Mark Blair

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# John 12:20-33 ESV

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.

<sup>21</sup> So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

<sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:20-33 ESV

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

26 If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:20-33 ESV

27 “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.

28 Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

29 The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:20-33 ESV

<sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

<sup>31</sup> Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out.

<sup>32</sup> And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

<sup>33</sup> He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.”

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 2:4 ESV

Jesus said to her, “Woman, what does this have to do with me? My hour has not yet come.”

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STARTS HERE

# John 7:30 ESV

they were seeking to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his hour had not yet come.

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STARTS HERE

# John 8:20 ESV

he taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come.

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STARTS HERE



# John 12:19 ESV

So the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:20 ESV

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks.

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:20 ESV

Now...

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:23 ESV

“The hour has come...

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:31 ESV

Now...now...

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:27 ESV

for this purpose I have come to this hour

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# 1. Agony of the Sovereign

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:23 ESV

Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.”

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE



# John 12:24 ESV

a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:33 ESV

He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

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STARTS HERE

# John 1:14 ESV

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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STARTS HERE

# John 21:25 ESV

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:27 ESV

"Now my heart is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name!"

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:28 ESV

Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.”

ONE 合一

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# John 12:29-30 ESV

<sup>29</sup> The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

<sup>30</sup> Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 13:31 ESV

Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him

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## 2. Accomplishment of the Savior

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Apart from his voluntary sacrifice Jesus could do nothing for these Greeks...it was only by means of his substitutionary atonement that he...would save them.

William Hendriksen

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:31 ESV

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out

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# Revelation 12:10 ESV

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.

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STARTS HERE

# 3. Attraction of the Son

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:32 ESV

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

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UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# 1) Who draws?

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:32 ESV

“And *I*, when *I*...”

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE



# John 3:19 ESV

Jesus: “the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil”

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STARTS HERE

# John 5:40 ESV

Jesus: “you refuse to come to me that you may have life”

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It is the Christ of Calvary who draws. It is the Christ whose blood was shed and whose body was broken. It is the Christ who gave Himself in the place of sinners so that He might bear in Himself the proper and justified wrath of God.

James Boice

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STARTS HERE

## 2) How are we drawn?

ONE 合一

UNITY  
STARTS HERE

# John 12:32 ESV

“And I, when *I am lifted up from the earth...*”

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STARTS HERE

# John 3:14 ESV

...the Son of Man must be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life

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STARTS HERE

# John 8:28 ESV

Jesus said, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he...

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STARTS HERE

# Isaiah 52:13-15 ESV

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. As many were astonished at you — his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind — so shall he sprinkle many nations.

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STARTS HERE



# John 6:44 ESV

Jesus: “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.”

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Sometimes when I am preparing a sermon, I ask myself, 'Why must I take all this trouble? If men were in their senses, they would run to Christ without my message... Why must we plead? Why must we be so earnest? Because people do not want to come, not even to their own Saviour. They do not wish to have their sins forgiven. They do not wish to be renewed in heart; and they never will come – no, not one mother's son of them – unless He that sent Christ to them shall draw them to Christ. A work of grace is necessary before the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus will be accepted by any of us.

Charles Spurgeon

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### 3) Who is Drawn?

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:32 ESV

“And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw *all people...*”

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# John 11:51-52 ESV

Jesus would die...for the scattered children of God

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# John 1:29 ESV

...the lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the  
*world*

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# John 3:16 ESV

God so loved the *world* that He gave His one and only Son...

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# John 4:42 ESV

...this man really is the *Savior of the world*

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# John 6:33 ESV

...he who comes down from heaven and *gives life to the world*

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Christianity makes up about a third of the world population and approximately the same as the two next largest religions combined; Islam and Hinduism. Christianity is also the only religion represented in all 238 surveyed countries.

The World Christian Encyclopedia

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# Psalm 139:7 ESV

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

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## 4) Why are we drawn?

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:32 ESV

And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all *people to myself.*”

ONE 合一

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STARTS HERE

# John 12:26 ESV

If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

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Jesus never hides His scars when He calls disciples.

James Boice

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# John 12:25 ESV

Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

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Note the contrasts: loneliness or fruitfulness; losing your life or keeping your life; serving self or serving Christ; pleasing self or receiving God's honor.

Warren Wiersbe

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"when Jesus calls a man he calls him to come and die"

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

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Why do Jesus words go contrary to common sense? It is because he is the life. Those who love their lives and refuse to die with him will not see life proper... those who hate their lives and choose to die with Christ gain eternal life. Even when they sleep in death, they await a resurrection, for their eternal life cannot be interrupted by death.

Samuel Ngewa

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# John 6:37 ESV

Jesus: “All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.”

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STARTS HERE

# Romans 11:36 ESV

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

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