

The Rule & Reward Of Serving Jesus – John 12:26

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Introduction

1. It is in John 12 we find a turning point in the ministry of Jesus. It was the turn Jesus took to the cross that He may lay down His life for you and me. Jesus came to be a servant and has showed us by His life and sacrifice how to live as His servants.
2. Today we look to follow Jesus in our service to Him by learning the rule and reward of serving our Savior!

I. The Hour Has Come

- a. Background of John 12:26
 - i. Jesus recently raised Lazarus, had large crowds visiting, cleansed the temple again and made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem.
- b. Here Come The Greeks – John 12:20
 - i. They wanted to see and talk with Jesus. Jesus' response...
- c. The Theme of The Text – John 12:23-24
 - i. To glorify God and to be glorified with God. Jesus used a seed to illustrate the great truth that there can be no glory without suffering, no fruitful life without death, no victory without surrender!
 - ii. God's children are like seeds we must be planted to grow into a fruitful life.
- d. Comfortable Or Conformable? – John 12:25

II. The Rule Of Serving Jesus – John 12:26

- a. "if any man serves Me, he must follow Me"
 - i. Matthew 10:39 – are we willing to be that committed?
 - ii. Jesus showed us His way in life and our way for our lives – Matthew 20:26-28

III. The Fellowship Of Serving Jesus – John 12:26

- a. "Where I am, there My servant will be also"
 - i. Where is Jesus?
 1. In the place of *consecration*. Jesus is dedicated to the glory of God are we? We have been taught to be (Titus 2:11-14)
 2. In the place of *communion with God*. Jesus is always near the Father and we should be too.
 3. In the place of *holy calm*. Jesus' life was a life of storms yet a life of peace. Are we serene in the place of holy calm?
 4. In the place of *conquest and victory into Heaven*. And we will be there in good time too! (John 14; 17:20-26)

IV. The Reward of Serving Jesus – John 12:26

- a. "the Father will honor him"
 - i. It is a special honor to be a servant of the Lord! (Revelation 14:13)