

INTRODUCTION

- * "Who is Jesus?" That is what the religious leaders, and people in general, during Jesus' day was trying to figure out. Jesus had declared Himself to be YHWH - I am I AM - and had backed it up with works that only the Creator God could accomplish.
- * Last week, we began considering Jesus' final week of Jesus' earthly life. Jesus entered into Jerusalem knowing that He would be offering Himself as the propitiation for the sins of the whole world. His entrance was received with a variety of responses.
- * But it is Jesus' response in the midst of this revelry which truly draws our attention. Jesus again began revealing to His disciples that He would be soon voluntarily offering His life. And this offering was according to the plan and purpose of God.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE REACTION TO THE LIGHT (v. 12-22)

- A. The Cry of the Crowd**
1. PSALM 118: 22-27 ... Receiving the Messiah; Receiving the Passover Lamb
 2. ZECHARIAH 9:9-10 (cf. Isaiah 44:6-8) ... His Meekness; His Message; His Majesty
- B. The Confusion of the Disciples (v. 16)**
- C. The Consternation of the Pharisees (v. 17-19)**
- D. The Curiosity of the Greeks (v. 20-22)**

II. THE I _____ OF THE LIGHT (v. 23-36)

- A. The Principle (v. 23-26)**
1. THE EXPLANATION ... If a grain of wheat dies, it produces much grain
 2. THE EXHORTATION ... He who loves his life will lose it ... He who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life!
- B. The Promise (v. 27-34)** ... "If I am lifted up, I will draw ALL to Myself!"
- C. The Petition (v. 35-36)** ... "While you have the light, believe in the Light! ... that you may become children of light"

III. THE R _____ OF THE LIGHT (v. 37-43)

- A. The Fulfillment of God's Prophecy (v. 37-41; cf. Isaiah 53:1ff; Isaiah 6:10)**

- B. The Desire for Man's Praise (v. 42-43)**

IV. THE D _____ OF THE LIGHT (v. 44-50)

- A. The Purpose of Christ's Coming (v. 44-45)**

- B. The Basis of Man's Condemnation (v. 46-50; Deuteronomy 18:15-22)**

INTROSPECTION

- * WHO IS JESUS TO YOU? IS HE YHWH INCARNATE?
- * HAVE YOU BELIEVED IN THE LIGHT? ARE YOU WALKING IN THE LIGHT?
- * ARE YOU PURPOSEFULLY BLINDING YOUR OWN EYES AND HARDENING YOUR HEART TO THE MESSAGE OF THE LIGHT?
- * CONSIDER JESUS' STATEMENTS IN Matthew 5:14 ... and Matthew 6:23.
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * How can we help one another to "walk in the light"?
- * Read Hebrews 10: 19-25. Considering v. 24-25, what is "the Day"? Why is it important to increase in our frequency of "not forsaking the assembly" and "provoking one another" ... as "the Day" draws nearer?