

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

1) 01 Dec 2013	John 12	Live Selflessly
2) 08 Dec	John 13	Serve Humbly
3) 15 Dec	John 14	Believe Exclusively
4) 22 Dec	Luke 1-2	Christmas Message
5) 29 Dec	John 15:1-25	Stay Open and Obedient
6) 05 Jan 2014	John 15:26 – 16:33	Depend on the Spirit
7) 12 Jan	John 17	Honor Jesus
8) 19 Jan	Psalms 139	Value Every Life
9) 26 Jan	John 18	Our Messiah - Abused
10) 02 Feb	John 19:1-16	Our King - Condemned
11) 09 Feb	John 19:17-42	Our Savior - Crucified
12) 16 Feb	John 20	Live in Resurrection Power
13) 23 Feb	John 21	Follow with Renewed Purpose

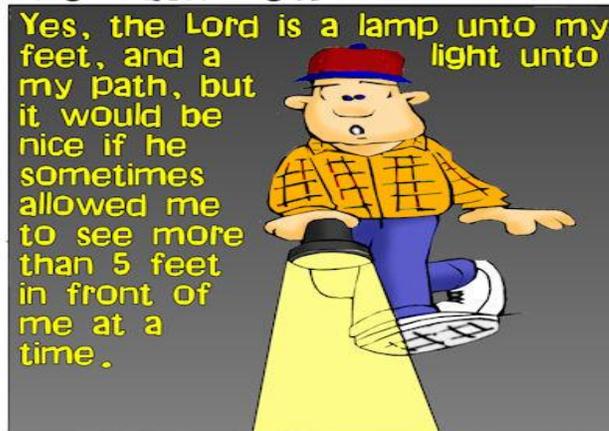
INTRODUCTION

- The previous 11 chapters covered the entire 3 year ministry of the Lord. The next 10 chapters deal with the final week, which address Jesus instructing His disciples, leaving them with numerous promises including them doing greater works than Him, of the Holy Spirit's soon coming, of abundant life, and of abiding peace
- In this chapter, Jesus gets His feet washed, He strolls into Jerusalem seated on a donkey to fulfill scripture, He responds to hearing about some Greeks looking to chat with Him, the crowd is spooked after hearing a voice from Heaven, He foretells His own death, and He performed more signs among the people – yet many still chose not to believe in Him

Passage	Comments		
Luke 7:36-50 and Mat 26; Mark 14; John 12	<p><b>12:1-8. Jesus Has His Feet Washed Twice by Women</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p><b>Early in His ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Galilee (Luke 7)</li> <li>• House of Simon the Pharisee</li> <li>• Unnamed woman was a known sinner who got saved</li> <li>• Washed feet with tears</li> <li>• Simon was offended</li> </ul> </td> <td> <p><b>End of His Ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Bethany (Mat, Mrk, John)</li> <li>• House of Simon the Leper</li> <li>• Woman was Mary, noble &amp; saved sister of Lazarus</li> <li>• Anointed head &amp; feet with oil</li> <li>• Judas was offended</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both these women "got it" – they knew who Jesus really was</li> <li>• Simon the Pharisee and Judas "missed it"</li> </ul>	<p><b>Early in His ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Galilee (Luke 7)</li> <li>• House of Simon the Pharisee</li> <li>• Unnamed woman was a known sinner who got saved</li> <li>• Washed feet with tears</li> <li>• Simon was offended</li> </ul>	<p><b>End of His Ministry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Bethany (Mat, Mrk, John)</li> <li>• House of Simon the Leper</li> <li>• Woman was Mary, noble &amp; saved sister of Lazarus</li> <li>• Anointed head &amp; feet with oil</li> <li>• Judas was offended</li> </ul>
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John 12:9-11	<p><b>Many Chose to Believe By Sight</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v11. Another large crowd gathered, and many believed on Jesus after hearing about Lazarus' resurrection</li> <li>• Recall John 11:45 where many believed after witnessing Lazarus' resurrection .....also cf John 7:31</li> <li>• BUT recall the Samaritans believed in Christ after they heard Him, and not after they saw something (whose faith would be stronger?) ..... John 4:39-41</li> <li>• Supernatural miracles definitely had a purpose to turn heads and hearts toward Christ – but in the end, people believe what they want to believe</li> </ul>		
12:12-19	<p><b>The Crowds Fulfill Prophecy &amp; Pay Homage to Christ</b> v19. The Message Bible has an interesting perspective: <i>"The Pharisees took one look and threw up their hands: "It's out of control. The world's in a stampede after him."</i> – How do we show homage to Christ today?</p>		
12:20-26	<p><b>Jesus Highlights a Paradox of Our Faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v25. We must hate our earthly life to gain eternal life. "Hate" is same Greek word used in Luke 14:26 to show our devotion to Christ ('Hate Mom &amp; Dad'). Other Paradoxes of Scripture :             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We must scatter to increase ..... Prov 11:24</li> <li>• To be exalted we must be humble .....Mt 23:12</li> <li>• The last shall be 1st, the 1st last .....Mt 20:16</li> <li>• We must give to receive .....Lk 6:38</li> <li>• To save our life, we must lose it .....Lk 17:33</li> <li>• To be wise we must become fools .....1Cor 3:18</li> <li>• We must die to live .....2Cor 6:4,8-10</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

Passage	Comments
12:27-32	<p><b>Jesus Will Draw ALL Men to Himself</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v27. Even Jesus experienced trouble praying, so why should we expect an easy time at it, but pray we must</li> <li>• vv28-29. A heavenly voice confirms that God's name is glorified and will be glorified through Christ             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ How can we glorify God's name?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v31. Satan, "the ruler of this world" will eventually relinquish his hold on the world as revealed in Rev 20. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> of 3 incidences that Jesus refers to Satan as "ruler/prince of this world" ..... of 14:30; 16:11</li> <li>• v32. Does "Draw ALL Men" mean "ALL Elect" or "ALL Elect and Non-Elect"? Actually, it is quite subjective depending on one's biased leaning. We have to consider the wider context.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ What about John 6:44 <i>"No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me DRAWS &lt;lit. Drags&gt; him; and I will raise him up on the last day?"</i></li> <li>♦ John 6:44 is different context than 12:32. God does the drawing in 6:44 based on fulfilled prophecy of people willingly hearing and heeding the good news (see vs 6:45), but Jesus does the drawing in 12:32 of presumably ALL people groups consisting of Gentiles and Jews. After all, who put Jesus on the cross? Was it the Elect or the non-Elect or both?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
12:33-38	<p><b>Many Chose Not to Believe On What They Saw</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v34. The crowd questioned Jesus about His claim of being the "Son of Man" who "must be crucified" – This claim made no sense to them. They thought the Son of Man was to come in Military Power to deliver them from Roman conquest, and not in Spiritual Power to be delivered from sin</li> <li>• vv35-36. <i>"While you have the Light, believe in the Light..."</i> – Jesus was asking the crowd, who consisted of both Elect and non-Elect to make a choice – basically, "today is the day of salvation" so take advantage of it.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ What prevents people from making the right choice?</li> <li>♦ In the end, can any lost soul put the blame on anything or anyone other than themselves?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v37. Though Jesus worked "many signs" before them to confirm His mission, yet they chose not to believe</li> </ul>

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



"While you have the Light, believe in the Light so that you may become the sons of God. John 12:36

Passage	Comments
	<p><b>They Could Not Believe Because God Prevented It</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv39-40. "For this reason <b>they could not believe</b>, for Isaiah said again, 'God has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart...less they be converted'" – Calvinist love this passage because they believe it confirms their stance of the non-elect never are able to be part of the elect – BUT they are only partially right</li> <li>• <b>What comes first:</b> Someone hardens their own heart or God hardens someone's heart? Recall that Scripture states Pharaoh hardened his heart 9x and God hardened his heart 9x. God gave Pharaoh ample opportunity to obey through 10 ever increasing plagues</li> <li>• <b>1Cor 6:9-11</b> depicts that the Corinthians were once doomed for Hell (non-elect) but, through Christ they became washed &amp; part of the elect after they believed             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some believe that everyone's eternal fate is predestined prior to birth</li> <li>2. Some believe that everyone has a chance to get saved while they have breath in their bodies</li> <li>3. There is a 3<sup>rd</sup> consideration: Just as some can accept Christ early in life and be sealed from that point forward, others can reject Christ early in life and doom themselves to Hell from that point forward (see below "The Point of No Return")</li> </ol> </li> <li>♦ Scripture conveys that God made it possible for everyone to get saved through the atoning blood of Christ, which was shed for "ALL the world", and each of us can seal our eternal fate long before the day of our death – some to Heaven, others to Hell – depending on whether or not we willingly choose to accept Christ</li> <li>♦ Only God intimately knows the heart of each individual and knows when each person steps over the line from being savable to non-savable.</li> </ul>
12:42-43	<p><b>BUT Many of the Rulers Secretly Believed in Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus would come out of hiding later ..... 19:38-39</li> <li>• Other rulers will come to faith post resurrection "...and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith" ..... Acts 6:7</li> </ul>
The Point of No Return	<p>Can someone reach a point of no return where they seal their fate for Hell? Apparently YES. Here are some supporting passages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Romans 1:24 <i>Therefore God delivered them over in the cravings of their hearts to sexual impurity...</i></li> <li>• Romans 1:28 <i>"And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind..."</i></li> <li>• 1Corinthians 1:18 <i>For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;</i></li> <li>• 2Corinthians 4:3-4 <i>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.</i></li> <li>• Hebrew 6:4-6 <i>"For in the case of those who have once been enlightened and have tasted of the heavenly gift and have been made partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, and then have fallen away, it is impossible to renew them again to repentance ..."</i></li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hebrews 10:26 <i>For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,</i></li> <li>• 2Peter 2:20-22 <i>For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, 'The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire'. (Prov 26:11)</i></li> <li>• 1John 2:19 <i>They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, so that it would be shown that they all are not of us.</i></li> <li>• 1John 5:16,17 <i>"If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask and God will for him give life to those who commit sin not leading to death. There is a sin leading to death; I do not say that he should make request for this. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not leading to death."</i></li> </ul> <p><b>NOTE:</b> None of these passages, nor the rest of Scripture, allude to anyone losing their salvation</p>

**CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS**

- Can we tell if someone is unsavable? Not really. We can make assumptions based on behavior and act accordingly (e.g., "don't cast pearls before swine")
- We can't even tell the difference between an unsaved person and a backslidden Christian. Even the Apostles were duped by Judas, Paul was duped by Demas, and John was duped by those who "went out from us"
- We must be like the Apostles and assume that everyone we come across is saveable, and be a bold witness to them

**NEXT WEEK: John 13:1-50.** This chapter deals with the Last Supper, washing the Apostles' feet, Judas' betrayal, and the delivery of a new commandment to love one another



Frustrated over debating theology, Cal decided to make a dramatic CALVINST object lesson with Greg.