

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

June 2, 2021

John 12: 33 - 50

33 This he said, signifying what death he should die. 34 The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man? 35 Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. 36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them. 37 But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: 38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? 39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, 40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them. 41 These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him. 42 Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God. 44 Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. 45 And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me. 46 I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. 49 For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

Verses 33 and 34

This he said, signifying what death he should die. 34 The people answered him, We have heard out of the law that Christ abideth for ever: and how sayest thou, The Son of man must be lifted up? who is this Son of man?

*Jesus did not fit the “Jesus” the people wanted Him to be.

*Does this happen today? Oh yes. Often Jesus rubs people the wrong way. We want a Jesus who only says “I love you, I love you, I love you.” But there are times when Jesus will convict you and tell you that you are going the wrong way and something needs to change. People are resistant to change especially when it is something we really like or want or think we need. We get wrapped up in our own wants and don’t accept what Jesus has done for us or wants to do for us.

Susie commented that it is much like parenthood: We don’t say yes to all the times our children ask us for something. We need to redirect (discipline) them. Split families must really be cautious not to let the children ‘play’ them or manipulate them. All parents must be on the same page dealing with discipline. Discussion continued on spoiling children and sparing the rod.

Verses 35 and 36

Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. 36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them.

*We have already covered the concept of light versus darkness. We must walk in the Light while the Light is still there. Jesus knows time way better than we do. We cannot tell time very well. So we need to prepare when there is light so we are ready for the inevitable dark times in our lives. We have the assurance that Jesus will be with us during the bad times.

Verses 37 through 41

But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: 38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? 39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, 40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them. 41 These things said Esaias, when he saw his glory, and spake of him.

*It is amazing the amount of miracles Jesus performed and equally amazing the amount of people who witnessed those miracles and yet did not believe in Jesus.

*Isaiah 53 :1 is quoted in these verses saying that miracles would happen but people would not believe.

Pastor Tom is concerned for his family: He is very proud of them but despite the fact that they know about Jesus, they are not walking hand in hand with Him? We must keep praying that GOd will intervene and discipline them.

Verses 42 and 43

Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: 43 For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

*This is Peer pressure among adults!

*It was important for the Jews to be a part of the synagogue. Some of them wanted to believe in Jesus but the Pharisees bullied them by threatening to kick them out of the synagogue if they believed.

*Peer pressure is hard on women but especially hard on men. Pastor Tom noted a local 'social club' that he could belong to but it does not have the same values he has. Every person has to make choices about what issues are important to them and then act accordingly. It could be that when we

choose Jesus we may need to be prepared to lose 90% of our friends because of this conflict of values. Our choice: follow Jesus or follow the crowd.

Verse 44

Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me.

*We must believe God and not men.

Verse 45

And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.

*The only way to God is through Jesus Christ.

Verses 46 through 48

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. 47 And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. 48 He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

*Right now, Jesus is in Save-mode, offering salvation to all who believe in Him. Later on, in the last day, Jesus will be in Judge-mode, sorting out those who believed and those who did not.

Verses 49 and 50

For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

*Jesus and the Father are one. Jesus does the Will of the Father.

*We must ask ourselves - What is more important than Eternal Life? It causes pain to think that many people believe that there are more important things than Jesus Christ.

Pastor Tom opened the lines for discussion:

- We must never stop praying for unsaved loved ones. God has His timing for the choices people make concerning their relationship with Jesus.
- Verses 42 and 43 reflect what the United Methodist Church is going through right now.

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee
While we are absent one from the other.
