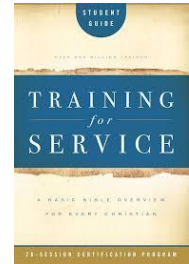


Welcome BACK! We are returning to our study of John after the major event in the study of John 11 – The Raising of Lazarus from the dead. To stay on target with our study manual:



One powerful way of studying the word of God (in such long chapters as John 14) is to look at the theme of the chapter itself. New King James Versions are helpful here because they are divided into “titled” sections so that we can make a connection between the chapter’s theme and its content sections. Let’s look at what we will see in John 12:

John 12 (NKJV) The Anointing at Bethany

The Plot to Kill Lazarus

The Triumphal Entry

The Fruitful Grain of Wheat

Jesus Predicts His Death on the Cross

Who Has Believed Our Report?

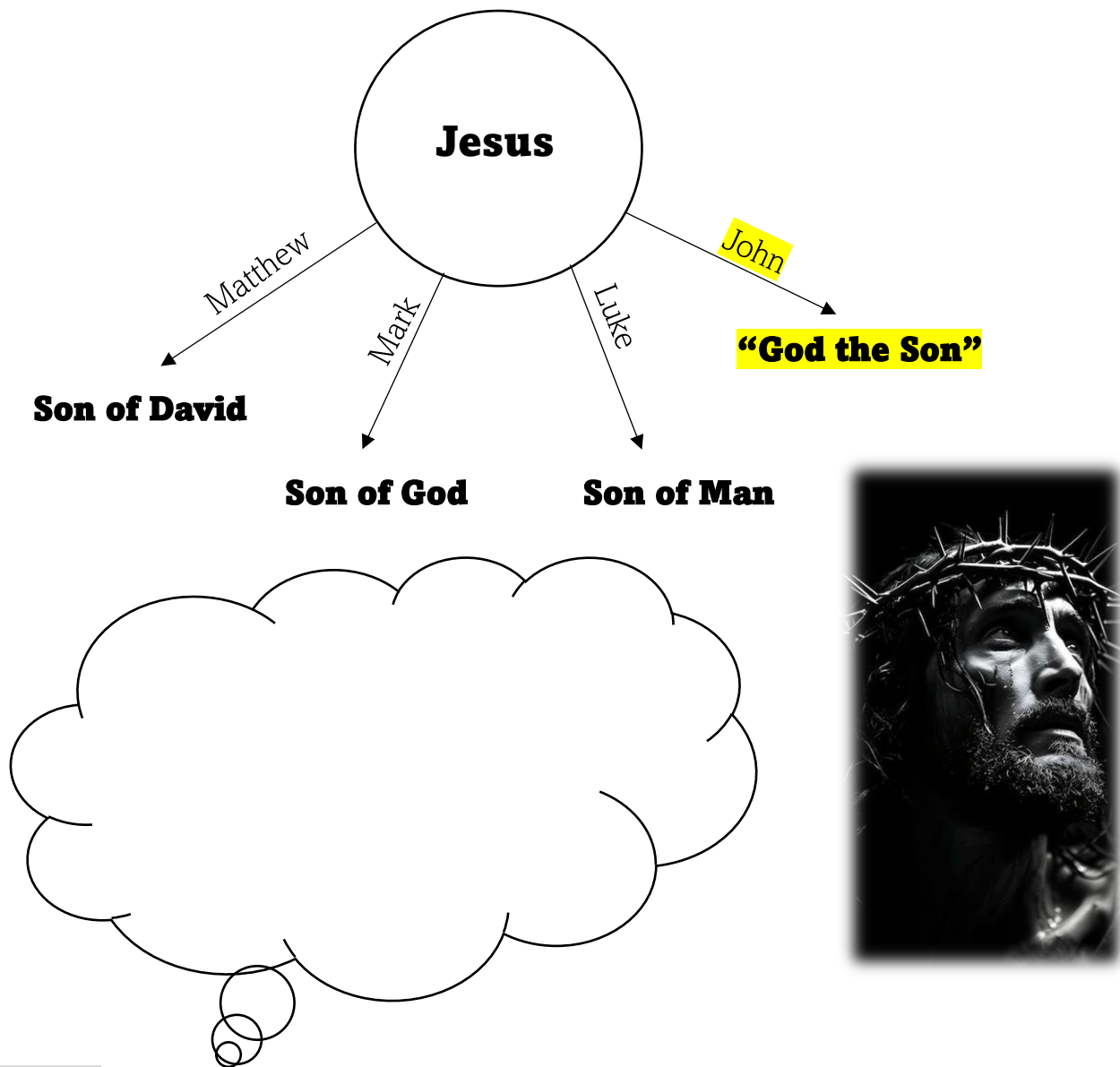
Walk in the Light

As we look over the titles of the content in chapter 12, we can see immediately that we are beginning to study the events and the communications in the last week of Jesus’ life. His triumphal entry is into Jerusalem is Jesus’ entry into His passion = giving His life for the sins of humanity. **THIS IS WHAT JESUS CAME TO DO AND EXISTS TO ACCOMPLISH.** When we think of the Father as the Leader (the organizer of the whole purpose of life and eternal life) and the Holy Spirit as the Facilitator of the power of believers to accomplish God’s will within the context of the church...**WE CAN EASILY SEE JESUS AS THE SACRIFICE THAT MADE THE PLAN OF THE FATHER POSSIBLE IN THE LIVES OF HUMANITY.**

John seems to be accelerated. By **chapter 12**, we are in the last week of Jesus’ physical life on earth. We are going to experience the content of Jesus’ teaching from the last week of His earthly life. It is like a “death-bed” conversation. There would almost appear to be an urgency in the information being revealed at that point. Some would say: “save the best for last.” It is certainly the kind of information that you want to play **REAL CLOSE** attention to because Jesus doesn’t have long to live. This could possibly be the reality in this section of John. **THE SUBJECT MATTER IS REALLY THAT CRITICAL** (of course – as is the rest of

Scripture). But, this information almost feels like last minute instructions that we will need to carry out the assignment. Look at it with that kind of seriousness.

Remember that John presents Jesus to us as – NOT, the “Son of God,” but “God the Son!” We are in an encounter with God Himself (in the Son). Let us meditate on the many notes in this study!



APPLICATION: As we go through this passage, let’s ask a couple of application questions. First, what does God expect of us based on what He said (therefore what principles He taught us here)? Secondly, what benefit do we receive from what we learn here (other than avoiding the judgment of God)? _____

Imagine the “implication” of this conclusion (that Jesus is God, the Son). We serve a God (of the universe) that took sin on Himself to save us from eternal damnation. How does that change the way

you look at God, worship Him, and view the church in general? Let's read the book of John with this kind of "energy" (passion and perspective).

2 Major things – (1) We are entering the last week of Jesus' life; (2) The "world" of the Jews has changed because Jesus just raised a man from the dead.

John 12 (NKJV) The Anointing at Bethany

Remember – from Sunday School, the Passover is a celebration of God's act of deliverance exercised towards the Israelites. Deliverance is a major component of salvation/redemption.

12:1 Then, six days before **the Passover**, Jesus came to **Bethany**, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

(1) We are entering the last week of Jesus' life; (2) The "world" of the Jews has changed because Jesus just raised a man from the dead.

² There they made Him a **supper**; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. ³ Then Mary took a pound of **very costly oil** of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

Here is Mary and Martha again in the same roles – serving tables/serving Jesus. Comment on whether you think one activity is better than the other. Where did Mary get the money for this very costly oil? It may be an indication of being from a well-to-do family. **Note too:** 1 Corinthians 11:15 – a woman's hair is her glory. This was a tremendous act of humility on Mary's part, right?

On the contrary

⁴ But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

Let's comment on the fact that Judas is one of Jesus' disciples. We would think that those closest to Jesus would not be the kind of people who would betray Him. We learn that disciples are fallible. We could also argue that Judas was trying desperately to cause Jesus to display His power to the Roman authorities the then Jews thought He came to deliver them from. **WHEN YOUR PICTURE OF DELIVERANCE IS TOO SMALL!**

⁵ "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" ⁶ This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

Let's comment on the fact that Judas is one of Jesus' disciples. We would think that those closest to Jesus would not be the kind of people who would betray Him. We learn that disciples are fallible. We could also argue that Judas was trying desperately to cause Jesus to display His power to the Roman authorities the then Jews thought He came to deliver them from. **WHEN YOUR PICTURE OF DELIVERANCE IS TOO SMALL!**

⁷ **But Jesus said**, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial." ⁸ For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

Consider: Jesus said this almost implying that we will be expected to do something about the poor as long as we are here. HE ELEVATED THE EVENT OF HIS DEATH ABOVE EARTHLY SITUATIONS - and rightfully SO!

The Plot to Kill Lazarus

⁹ Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

Keep in mind. They were not going to miss this Passover. They were anxious to see the miracle from heaven. It would further validate His claims of being deity and remove some of their "doubts."

¹⁰ But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

Look at the disregard, disrespect and disdain the Jewish leaders had for this distinctly -displayed POWER FROM HEAVEN. God was giving them all they needed to receive His promise. They rebelled because of their own earthly desires. DO YOUR DESIRES GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR BLESSING?

¹¹ because **on account of him** many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

▲ **Your miracle can be someone else's salvation!**

The Triumphal Entry – Riding into Jerusalem for the Passover Feast !

¹² The next day **a great multitude** that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, ¹³ took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out:

"Hosanna!" Cry for salvation has become a praise! –
"Save us Lord!"
'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!'

Imagine how fickle we are (changing frequently one's loyalties)

The King of Israel!"

¹⁴ Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; **as it is written:**

¹⁵ "Fear not, daughter of Zion;

Behold, your King is coming,

Zechariah 9:9

Sitting on a donkey's colt."

¹⁶ His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and *that* they had done these things to Him.

¹⁷ Therefore, the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. ¹⁸ For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign. ¹⁹ The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"

Pharisees discouraged because of the multitude of followers after Jesus. "Religious Jealousy???"

The Fruitful Grain of Wheat

²⁰ Now there were **certain Greeks** among those who came up to worship at the feast. ²¹ Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

Jesus’ popularity was drawing more than the Jews who came to worship. This was again a fulfillment of Genesis 12:1-3.

²² Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

²³ **But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.**

THE REAL SEEDTIME HARVEST!

²⁴ **Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.** ²⁵ **He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.** ²⁶ **If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.**

Our lives are supposed to be **a seed**. This is further proof of the fact that we did not come here just to use the resources of our bodies, faculties and spiritual gifting for our own personal purposes. We are to give them over to the use of the Lord. We need to “lose” our lives so that His can operate through us. This is profound.

Jesus Predicts His Death on the Cross

²⁷ “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify Your name.”

Jesus embraced His purpose. Will we embrace ours? Start by recognizing and acknowledging that we have one.

Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified *it* and will glorify *it* again.”

²⁹ **Therefore the people who stood by and heard *it* said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.”** **Again, demonstration of heaven in the witness of the people. A Grace!**



³⁰ Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. ³¹ **Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.** ³² **And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.”** ³³ **This He said, signifying by what death He would die.**

We need to be constantly reminded of what we are seeing happen before us. We are witnessing God’s plan.

³⁴ The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how *can* You say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this Son of Man?”

They are just putting the pieces together. WHEN WE STUDY THE WORD, WE ARE DOING THE SAME THING.

The only light we have in darkness is the word. Imagine its importance.

³⁵ Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. **Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.** ³⁶ While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light.” These things Jesus spoke, and departed, and was hidden from them. **John 1:9 + John 8:12 + John 9:5 – Jesus is the light. The word is our light.**

Who Has Believed Our Report? – STRANGELY our same challenge today!

³⁷ **But** although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸ **that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:**

“Lord, who has believed our report?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?”

Isaiah 53:1 – again connecting and confirming the Scripture

³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

⁴⁰ “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts,
Lest they should see with *their* eyes,
Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn,
So that I should heal them.”

Isaiah 44:18

⁴¹ These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

Walk in the Light

⁴² Nevertheless **even among the rulers** many believed in 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. **Look at their (OUR) real problem. And the synagogue was all about HIM!**

⁴⁴ Then Jesus cried out and said, **“He who believes in Me, believes not in Me but in Him who sent Me.**

Isn’t this the whole message He came to teach in John?

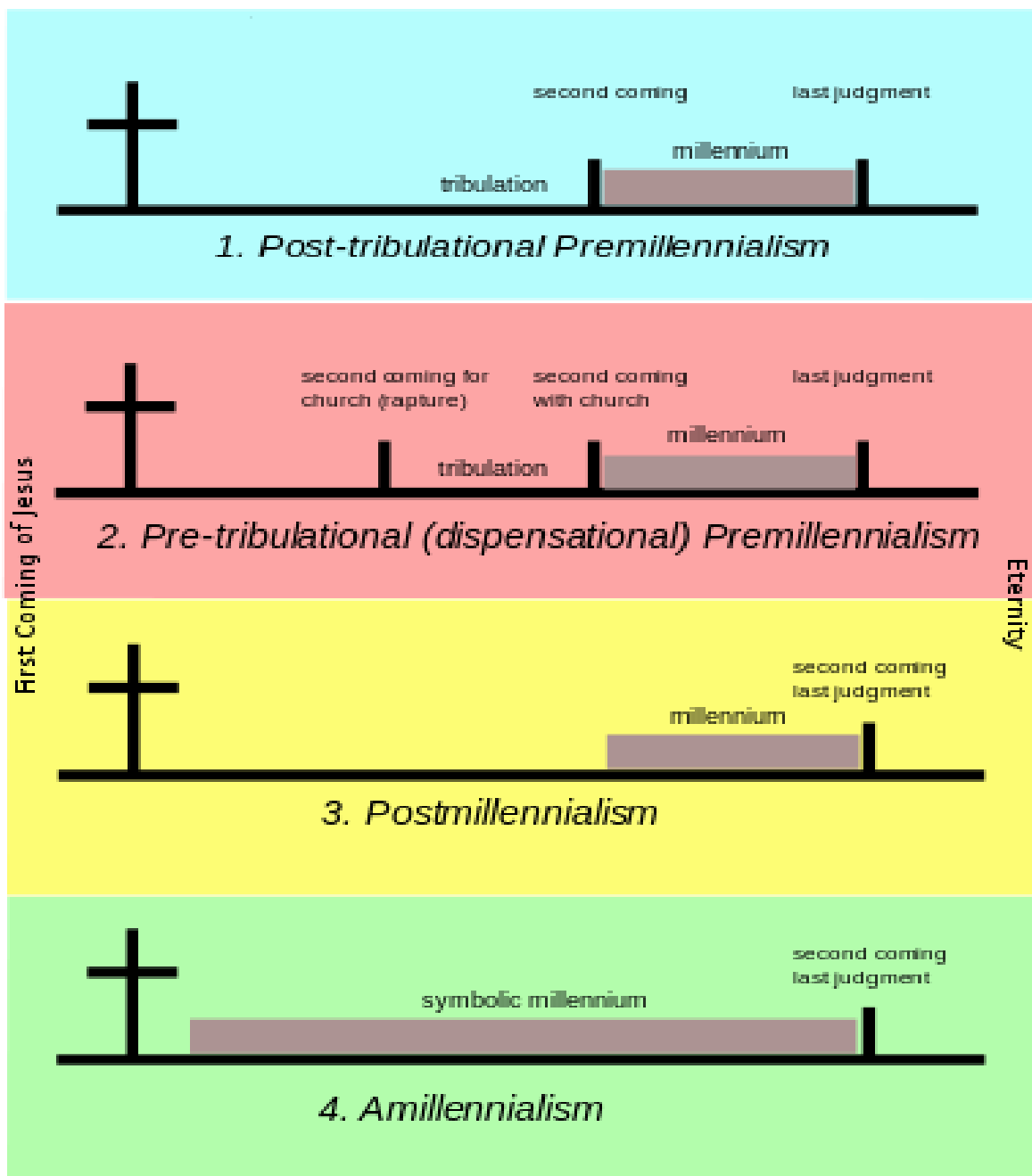
⁴⁵ **And he who sees Me sees Him** who sent Me. ⁴⁶ I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness. ⁴⁷ And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸ He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge **him in the last day.** ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak.”

Again, because They are One! APP: What will we do with this information in our personal lives?

END TIMES


Let's take a look at the "things" concerning the end of time (from the standpoint of the Bible):

Comparison of Christian millennial teachings



Let's take a look at the "things" concerning the end of time (from the Bible)


1. The cross of Jesus Christ
2. The resurrection of Jesus Christ
3. The Signs of the End Times
4. The "first" coming of Jesus Christ
5. The "second" coming (or return) of Jesus Christ
6. The rapture of the church
7. The period of tribulation on the earth – the "7" years
8. The Abomination of Desolation
9. The god of this world/prince of the power of the air / Apollyon
10. The period of 1000 years of peace – the millennium
11. The Apocalypse / Four Horsemen
12. The Antichrist
13. The final judgment/Great White Throne
14. The "seventieth" week /70 weeks
15. The Mark of the Beast
16. The final battle – Armageddon – Gog and Magog
17. The nature and reality of heaven
18. The nature and reality of hell
19. The New Creation
20. The reality of eternity and the Kingdom of God



Look up some of these and be prepared for discussion. We will talk about each one.

The discussion on the rapture is differentiated by whether Jesus will return:

- I. Prior to the great tribulation
- II. In the middle of the great tribulation
- III. At the conclusion of the great tribulation



The great tribulation precedes Jesus Christ's return in power (authority) to establish His reign (Kingdom) on earth.