



**John 12:20-36 New International Version (NIV)**

**Jesus Predicts His Death**

***20 Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the festival. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, with a request. "Sir," they said, "we would like to see Jesus." 22 Philip went to tell Andrew; Andrew and Philip in turn told Jesus.***

***23 Jesus replied, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honour the one who serves me.***

***27 "Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name!"***

***Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and will glorify it again." 29 The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.***

***30 Jesus said, "This voice was for your benefit, not mine. 31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." 33 He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.***

***34 The crowd spoke up, "We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this 'Son of Man'?"***

***35 Then Jesus told them, "You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. 36 Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light." When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.***

Jesus has great concern for all people but he knows that it is through his death on the cross that the light of God's love will shine. Jesus died sinless and instead of cursing those who are responsible he blesses them asking his Father to forgive them.

As we this week think about the cross we see that his cross conquered all hate. Jesus reflecting about his death reminds his disciples that the seed that bears fruit must first die it is from this dead seed that new life comes into being.

At this time of isolation as we go on our one walk a day it is good that we live in such a beautiful part of God's creation and all around us as we walk we can see signs of new life – trees and plants coming into blossom, lambs in the fields etc.

Jesus strength to offer himself as the one perfect sacrifice for our sin is in the power of God's love for a fallen world.

Jesus explains that self-love leads to destruction and sadly today we live in a world of selfishness, we so need Jesus and his words of love right now. Following Jesus will lead us to life and life in all its fullness – eternal life so that whatever happens to us in this world we can have hope, sure and certain hope because through Jesus we can have perfect fellowship with God.

Can we hang on to that hope at this difficult time? In the Lord's strength I believe we can. **Amen**