

# John 12: Surrendered or Self-Serving

*Excursus: Glorified*

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John 12.20-26



# The Son of Man Glorified

*Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. . . . it was for this very reason I came to this hour.”*

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*“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.”*

JOHN 17.1

- ❖ Central to John’s Gospel is the glory of Jesus. The words “glory” and “glorify” (including *glorifies* and *glorified*) appear 30 times; the first occurrence is in the Prologue; the final one at the conclusion of Jesus’ prayer in John 17. Twenty-one occurrences are within the six day period of chapters 12-17.
- ❖ In the Synoptics, the cross is Jesus’ humiliation, and in the resurrection, he is glorified. In contrast, it is the crucifixion and death of Jesus that, in John’s Gospel, is the greatest display of his glory.



- ❖ In Scripture, “glory” refers to the transcendence and preeminence of God. It is the infinite sum of His infinite attributes: holiness, righteousness, justice, goodness, love, faithfulness, including His power, authority, and knowledge.

*God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.*

1 TIMOTHY 6.14-15

- ❖ When Moses demanded that God show His glory to him, God responded—

*And the LORD said, “I will cause all My goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim My name, the LORD, in your presence. But you cannot see My face, for no one may see Me and live. When My glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove My hand and you will see My back; but My face must not be seen.”*

EXODUS 33.19a, 20, 22-23



*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

JOHN 1.14

*And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.*

JOHN 17.5

- ❖ In presenting the incarnation of the Word-God, John testified to seeing “his glory, the glory of the *Son-One-and-Only*, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” As the *Son-One-and-Only*, Jesus spoke to the Father of the glory they shared before the beginning of time and of his desire for his followers to be with him and see this eternal “glory-oneness” that he possesses with the Father. In John 2, Jesus revealed his glory through his first miraculous sign, “*and his disciples put their faith in him.*” Yet Jesus also declared that “*If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me*” (5.54).



# Your Glory is My Glory

*“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.”*

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- ❖ In John’s Gospel, Jesus is both the Son of God and the Son of Man. He is the *Son-One-and-Only* who has been with the Father from the beginning and who possesses the infinite and eternal glory also possessed by the Father. As the *Word-Made-Flesh*, he is the Son of Man: the only authorized Representative of the Father—

*No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. (P<sup>18</sup>)*

- ❖ Thus, Jesus, the *Word-Made-Flesh* Son of Man, carries within himself the fullness of deity and the fullness of humanity. His mission is to reveal the Father’s heart, the love that God has for the world (3.16), the same love by which he has eternally been loved by the Father (17.24).



- ❖ As the Father's representation on earth, Jesus never seeks his own affirmation; he lives only to honor and glorify the Father. The Father's heart is salvation for the world; the Son has come to bring that salvation. The Father's provision is grace through the merits of the Son—*the Lamb of God which takes away the sin of the world*. The Son will honor the Father's heart and will; the Father will show the world the glory of the Son as the only one with sufficient merit to atone for sin. Thus, Jesus will declare that "the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified" and later say to his disciples on his last evening with them, "*Now the Son of Man is glorified and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will glorify the Son in himself, and will glorify him at once.*" In one another, the fullness of grace and truth was revealed.
- ❖ On his last evening with his disciples, Jesus said to them: "*This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples*" (15.8). Like Jesus, we must live with one singular focus: that God would be glorified in us and we in Him. Nothing else matters.