



March 18, 2018 John 12:20-33 & Jer. 31: 31-34

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#### ENTERING THE SCENE:

As we enter more deeply into our Lenten reflections we, like the Greeks, want to see Jesus. We are slowly realizing that in order to see Jesus, we will have to also let "fall to the ground and die", all that makes us think and choose as if our physical life is all there is for us. We too will have to "let go and let God" as Jesus will do. This "thunders" in our ears. But our inner "angel" whispers that this is truth, and it is for our benefit.

#### John 12:20-33

20 Now there were some **Greeks** among those who went up to worship at the Feast. 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 I tell you the truth, 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 The

man who **loves his life** will lose it, while the man who **hates his 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 **honor** 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 But I, when I am **lifted up** from the **earth**, will **draw all** men to myself." 33 He said this to show the kind of **death** he was going to die.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION:** Jesus, in this gospel, again invites you to follow him. What helps you to accept his invitation today?

**PRAYER:** Lord, you keep inviting me to follow you. But Lord, you are making it more and more difficult to do this with your talk of dying and hating my life. Like the grain on the stalk I don't want to be plucked, smashed or planted. I just want to wave in the breezes of life under your glorious sun. Help me as I learn slowly to trust that your invitation is a visitation of an angel, not the threat of thunder. Amen