

Books of the Book Series

The Gospel of John Outline of Script for TV Production 3ABN Studios March 4-12, 2013

17. *The Shadow of the Cross (John 12:1-50)*

17. Scene A. Saturday Night (John 12:1-8)

Various characters in the Gospel of John function as representative figures

Mary– love and devotion

Martha– faith and service (second generation)

Lazarus– resurrection hope

Many scenes of Mary

12:3– anoint feet (Sacrifice)

11:32– fell at feet (Supplication)

Luke 10– sat at feet (Study)

8:1-11– thrown at feet (Shame)

19:25– stand at feet (Sorrow)

20:14-17– garden (Submission)

17. Scene B. Killing Lazarus (John 12:9-11)

Why kill Lazarus?

An innocent witness to Christ

Broke no Jewish law

Not a blasphemer

His crime?

Living witness to the power of Jesus

Religious leaders no longer rational

Willing to murder to keep the truth from coming out

First-fruits of [John 15:20; 16:2-3](#)

Our hour of glory is coming

Four reactions to the raising of Lazarus

11:45ff.– kill Jesus

12:1ff.– gratitude and love for Jesus

12:9ff.– kill Lazarus

12:12ff.– nationalistic misunderstanding (use him)

17. Scene C. Triumphal Entry (John 12:12-19)

John 12:12-16 surrounded by two mentions of Lazarus

12:13 = Greek language for festal procession
Greeting a king or emperor
Greeting a general returning from war
Temple procession in OT (Psa 118:26-27)

12:15 quotes Zech 9:9-11

His rule is universal
Blood of the covenant is the basis

12:16– Another misunderstanding (see John 6:14-15)

Jesus announces He is Messiah
Anointed in verse 7
Crowned in 19:2
They hail nationalist king
Even disciples only get it later
His kingdom is spiritual (Bread of Life) not political
But it has political implications
For Rome
For religious leaders

John 12:17-19 gives reason for people's reaction

The raising of Lazarus
“The world” will now go after Him!

17. Scene D. Arrival of the Greeks (John 12:20-36)

John 12:20-23 Arrival of Greeks precipitates “hour”

Glorification of Jesus in John = cross
Arrival of Greeks confirm: “World has gone after Him!”
Till now Jesus has resisted the arrival of “the hour”

12:24-26

Death brings life (irony)
Exchange of life
Present to eternal
Renounce self-centeredness
Obvious and hidden pride
Seek to be where Jesus is

Where is Jesus?

He is where the people are (Matt 25)
The suffering, the downtrodden, sinners, weak, outcast
He is with us when we go the way of the cross
(John 13)

Our hour of glory = self-sacrifice for others in down to earth places

12:27– Gethsemane experience

Greeks = Satan's distraction from the cross

“You can have it all without dying”

John 12:31-32

It is the cross, not signs, that bring the world to Christ

Lifting up Jesus = casting down Satan

Judgment at the cross

12:33-36 Crowd is stunned

What sort of Messiah is this?

17. Scene E. The Ground of Unbelief (John 12:37-43)

Elaboration of 1:11, wedding of Cana

Why did people not believe in Jesus in spite of the signs?

Fulfillment of Scripture (12:38-41)

Quote from Isa 53 (suffering)

Quote from Isa 6 (Shekinah glory)

God’s problem in becoming human

Failure of will (12:42-43)

Prefer earthly achievement and praise

Those who seek God’s approval recognize Jesus

17. Scene F. The Legal Structure of John (John 12:44-50)

Summary of Jesus’ public ministry

Summary of judgment theme (12:47-48)

Jesus doesn’t judge

His words judge

Ratification of earlier decisions

Chapters 1-12 modeled after a trial

– witnesses called

– evidence presented

– intended verdict: Jesus = Messiah

– respondents judge themselves