

Dead Wheat

John 12:20-33

- We talk (badly) about things we say should not be talked about but never talk about one thing in particular: death.
 - How many substantive conversations have you had about death?

As we look toward Resurrection Sunday, we must first come face-to-face with the Cross – the death of Jesus.

- **John 12:12-19** is the Gospel of John's low-key version of the Triumphal Entry.
 - Greek-speaking people who were Jewish converts or Gentiles make a request "Sir, we would like to see Jesus" (**John 12:21**).

We all have our reasons for wanting to see Jesus but on our terms.

- Note Jesus' indirect response to the request in **John 12:23-26**.
 - If we want to see Jesus, we must look death in the face.
- The unspoken fear and avoidance of death underlies all our "what if" questions."

Following Jesus means dying to self and giving up our lives to God and to others.

- Early Christians like Paul held that the meaning of dying with Christ was found in baptism and faith (**Romans 6:4, 6**).
- "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies...."

What about you?

Are you ready to fall to the ground and entrust all to God?

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