



In light of all who Jesus is and all that He's promised, choose to renounce your rights to your life

1. Because Jesus came to save the world, people from _____ wanted to see Him

John 12:20-22

Isaiah 42:6-7

Isaiah 49:6

Andrew is a great example of someone who simply _____ people to Jesus

2. Jesus' "hour" finally arrived in the form of His _____ death

John 12:23-24

The Greek verb translated as "glorified" means "to ascribe weight by recognizing real substance or value"

Philippians 2:5-11

"Christianity has always insisted that the cross we bear always precedes the crown we wear."
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-44

3. Your life is eternally lost or found based on whether you _____ your hold on it here

John 12:25-26

What's essential is that Jesus is at the _____ of our lives and since no one can take Him away from us, we hold fast to Him in this life, knowing that we will continue to forever

miséō – properly, to detest (on a comparative basis); hence, denounce; to love someone or something less than someone (something) else, i.e. to renounce one choice in favor of another. Note the comparative meaning of *miséō* which centers in moral choice, elevating one value over another.

The person who loves his life will lose it: it could not be otherwise, for to love one's life is a fundamental denial of God's sovereignty, of God's rights, and a brazen elevation of self to the apogee of one's perception, and therefore an idolatrous focus on self, which is the heart of all sin. Such a person loses his life, i.e. causes his own perdition.

D.A. Carson, *The Pillar New Testament Commentary – The Gospel According to John.*

*“Jesus is not just saying: If things go bad, don't fret, since you have died with me anyway. He is saying: Choose to die with me. **Choose to hate your life in this world the way I have chosen the cross . . .** He calls us to choose the cross. People only did one thing on a cross. They died on it. “Take up your cross,” means, “Like a grain of wheat, fall into the ground and die.” **Choose it.**”*

John Piper, “How to Hate Your Life” online devotional, *Desiring God*

In other words, it just doesn't matter much what happens to your life in this world.

If men speak well of you, it doesn't matter much.

If they hate you, it doesn't matter much.

If you have a lot of things, it doesn't matter much.

If you have little, it doesn't matter much.

If you are persecuted or lied about, it doesn't matter much.

If you are famous or unheard of, it doesn't matter much.

If you have died with Christ, these things just don't matter much.

John Piper, “How to Hate Your Life” online devotional, *Desiring God*

Matthew 25:46

If men speak well of you, it doesn't matter much.

If they hate you, it doesn't matter much . . .

If you are persecuted or lied about, it doesn't matter much.

Now What? In light of all who Jesus is and all that He's promised, choose to renounce your rights to your life