

Friday, April 30, 2010

Text: John 13:31-35 **The Glorified Savior**

Key Verse: Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified and God is glorified in him". John 13:31 NIV

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Our text contains some of the last words that Christ addressed to the disciples before he was glorified. They indicate that Jesus Christ thoroughly understood the depth of the faith of the disciples who had accompanied him in his ministry. Among them were traitors like Judas, doubters like Thomas, questioners like Peter, and the list can go on.

And in spite of recognizing his betrayal by one of his companions in ministry and the drama of the death awaiting him, he confirmed to them that if God was glorified in him up until now God will glorify him again very soon.

It is not unusual even in the church today that those who are an obstacle to the advancement of the work of Christ in the local church are often those who are members of the same congregation. Didn't the Savior warn his disciples even before this drama that we will have enemies from our own household, including the household of faith (Matthew 10:36)

The verb 'glorify' in general means 'to give glory.' But in the biblical language Jesus Christ is given the title "Savior of humanity" only after having been glorified by accepting an innocent death on the cross for our salvation. Apostle Paul confirmed this truth when he said "that's why God raised him from the dead, and gave him the name above all other names that at his name every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the father." (Phil 2:9-10)

Finally, Jesus exhorts his disciples to have mutual love if they want to be true disciples. How many churches are dying today because they do not observe the Lord's instruction for mutual love? The true disciples of Christ cannot live under tyranny or with lack of humility or selfishness or divisions

or quarrels. On the contrary, they must wear love for their neighbors as a belt around their waist. This is the condition for maturing in the Christian life in particular and the church in general.

Amen!.