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A Presentation Paper, Episode 05.

## **Jesus Hour and the Arrival of the Greeks**

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### **Abstract**

The phrasing “Jesus’ hour” appears several times in the New Testament for instance Jesus mentions it four times at least in the Gospel according to John (John 2:4, 7:30, 8:20 and 12:23). For John and for Jesus, we can say, the “hour” denotes the culminating moment of Jesus’ life and mission, the historic events of his sacrificial self-offering. “So they sought to arrest him; but no one laid hands on him, because his hour had not yet come” (John 7:30). “He taught in the temple; but no one arrested him, because his hour had not yet come” (John 8:20). The references to Jesus’ arrest make it obvious when his “hour” would come at last. It would come in the final days of his earthly life, with his suffering, death, and resurrection. But it would involve much more.

**Key Words:** Hour, Greeks, the Jesus Hour

### **1. Foreshadowing the Cross**

The mention of “his hour” in John 7:30 (“So they sought to arrest him; but no one laid hands on him, because his hour had not yet come”) adds a layer of tension and anticipation to the narrative. The festival in the narrative itself is a time of jubilation, but there is an underlying current of conflict as the religious authorities seek to apprehend Jesus. The timing is not arbitrary; it is intricately connected to

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**Received:** 21 November, 2023; **Accepted:** 22 November, 2023; **Published:** 24 November, 2023



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God's divine plan.<sup>1</sup>

By stating that "his hour had not yet come," just like in many other verses than John 7:30, Jesus foreshadows his crucifixion. This builds suspense in the narrative, prompting readers to reflect on the significance of the unfolding events in the context of God's sovereign timing.

## **2. The Arrival of the Greeks**

As Jesus approached Jerusalem, Greeks sought to meet him. Their arrival is symbolic, representing a broader audience beyond the Jewish community. This event occurs just before Jesus speaks about the grain of wheat falling into the ground and dying in verse 24, alluding to his impending death and resurrection.

## **3 Foreshadowing His Death and Resurrection for All Peoples**

In verse 23, Jesus declares, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." Here, "his hour" is no longer a future concept but a present reality. It signifies the moment when Jesus, like a seed falling to the ground, will undergo death to bring forth the harvest of salvation.

The arrival of the Greeks serves as a sign that the message of Jesus is not confined to a specific ethnicity or nation. It foreshadows the global impact of his impending sacrifice. The convergence of these Gentiles seeking Jesus aligns with the broader biblical theme of the inclusion of all nations in God's redemptive plan.

## **4. References**

Hahn, W. Scott. *The Fourth Cup: Unveiling the Mystery of the Last Supper and the Cross*. New York; Image books, 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> Scott W. Hahn, *The Fourth Cup: Unveiling the Mystery of the Last Supper and the Cross* (New York; Image books, 2018), 77.