Two Announcements Which Reveal Christ as the Triumphant and Glorified King of the World

(John 12:20-36)

1. Christ announces the arrival of His hour (vv.20-26)
2. Christ announces His devotion to this hour (vv.27-36)
   1. Jesus glorifies the Father through His suffering in this hour (vv.27-28)
      1. Jesus discloses His deep turmoil on account of this hour (v.27; cf. Mark 14:35; 1 John 2:2)

*“The death which he underwent must therefore have been full of horror, because he could not render satisfaction for us, without feeling, in his own experience, the dreadful judgment of God; and hence we come to know more fully the enormity of sin, for which the heavenly Father exacted so dreadful a punishment from His only begotten Son. Let us therefore know, that death was not a sport and amusement to Christ, but that he endured the severest torments on our account.” (Calvin)*

* + 1. Jesus declares His deeper desire for the Father’s glory (v.28)
  1. Jesus triumphs over the world and the Devil in this hour (vv.29-33)
     1. The hard-hearted ignorance of the crowd (v.29-30; cf. 8:43-44)
     2. The triumphant power of Christ’s death (vv.31-33)
        1. His death would judge the world (v.31a; cf. 3:19-21)

*“The world thought it was passing judgment on Jesus, not only as it perpetually debated who he was…but climactically in the cross. In reality, the cross was passing judgment on them.” (Carson)*

* + - 1. His death would defeat the Devil (v.31b)
         1. Through securing the new covenant heart through the new birth (e.g., 1 John 3:8-9)
         2. Through disarming the Devil of his only weapon against believers (e.g., Rev. 12:10-11)
      2. His death would involve His exaltation through crucifixion (v.32a, 33; e.g., 12:23; Isa. 52:13)
      3. His death would draw effectually all kinds of people (vv.32b)
         1. “Drag” refers to effectual drawing (see 6:44)
         2. “All” is always constrained to a specific group (see 10:16; 11:52; 17:2)
         3. “All” applies to all kinds of people, Jews and Greeks alike (see 12:20).
         4. Consider the alternatives

Christ’s drawing is weaker than the Father’s.

Christ’s intentions are contrary to the Father’s and the Spirit’s.

Christ is ultimately dependent on fallen humanity to respond rightly to Him.

There is no evidence anywhere that human nature was changed in any way generally by Christ’s cross (prevenient grace) except in the lives of those who have been born again.

* 1. Jesus judges the unbelieving world in this hour (vv.34-36)
     1. The crowd continues to misunderstand (v.34)
     2. Jesus commences the judgment and urges faith (vv.35-36)