## Mister Popular

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## Victorious, But Unpopular

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- Even though the Messiah was victorious in the end, these prophecies clearly present Him as achieving that victory through suffering and alienation.
- As one reads the gospels, especially John, it becomes clear that Jesus faced repeated hills and valleys in His ministry. His popularity ebbed and flowed, a product of the fickle nature of humanity. When He healed and fed the multitudes they loved Jesus. But when He condemned their actions or upset the order of their lives, they turned on Him violently.

## Victorious, But Unpopular



John 6:15, 22-24, 66

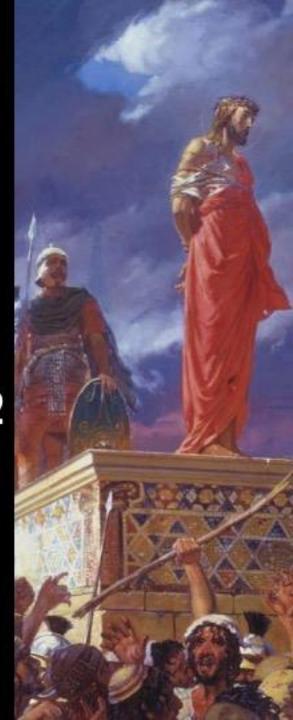
John 7:10-13, 15, 20, 25-27

John 8:30, 59

John 10:19-21, 31, 39, 40-42

John 12:12-15

John 19:15



So, why did Jesus endure unpopularity?  BECAUSE HE WAS MISSION-FOCUSED — Jesus didn't care about popularity because His mission was not determined or altered by public opinion. His was a divine calling, unrelated to the fickle whims of mankind (John 5:17, 19, 30, 4:34).

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- (SIDE NOTE: Nobody ever remembers the followers, the cowards, the nameless many who blend in to the background of a fallen world. We admire those who uncompromisingly defend truth)

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- BECAUSE JESUS WANTED DISCIPLESHIP RATHER THAN POPULARITY - Popularity comes and goes, but commitment has staying power. While popularity feels nice at the moment, it's not the same thing as true, lasting friendship (which is largely based on a "disciple" mentality according to John 15:12-19). A disciple recognizes that today's discomfort has an eternal reward that is worth it (John 12:23-26). A disciple knows that Jesus is the source of eternal life and will not trade that for anything (John 6:66-69).