

John 17- The Amazing Prayer Of Our Lord

I have never been the best at praying. I don't know why really. I do pray often but I feel like my prayers are so inadequate. I feel like they don't accurately represent my relationship with God. That's why John 17 was such a boost for me this week and why I am so eager to share it. The prayer of Jesus was one of the most beautiful and uplifting things I have ever read. It gave me great renewed respect and love for Him. The prayer didn't just teach me how to pray it showed me the heart of God. It showed me His greatest cares, concerns and attributes. Instead of the usual three part outline I want to discuss the things Jesus concentrated on the most to see His mind and heart that ours may become like His.

Context

1. Directly following John 14-16; John 17:1

Outline

1. Jesus Prayed For Himself- V1-5
2. Jesus Prayed For The Apostles- V6-19
3. Jesus Prayed For Future Believers- V20-26

Major Themes

1. Glory

a. Pertaining to Himself- John 17:1,2,5

- i. To glorify means to clothe in splendor (to see Him for who He really is ; telescope
- ii. He gave up His glory and was born of a woman as the Son of God and would die a shameful and painful death. He was only concerned with bringing glory to His Father and Himself so that those who believe in Him would receive glory. **John 1:14; V19**
- iii. Future believers- V22,24

1. He is making known the glory of God to them so that they may be glorified one day by God

2. V24 connects back to v5

3. We have not witnessed His glory in unveiled splendor...no one has but the Father and Spirit. We glimpse it- 2 Cor 3:18
4. When he returns we shall be like Him and see Him as He is – 1 John 3:2

2. Love

- a. As we have read so many times in John, there was great love between Jesus and the Father along with Jesus and the apostles.
- b. You can see the oneness between Jesus and God- v1,11,22
- c. He prays for future believers to experience real love
- d. V23- Share in the wealth of love that tie the Father and Son together. We are secure, content, and fulfilled because we are loved by the Almighty Eph 3:17b-19, with the same love He reserved for His Son. What is a greater message of hope for our world?
- e. V24- **John 14:31**- Our love is for God and His love is for us
- f. V26- Key point- We are not just the objects of God's love, we are being transformed that **God's love for Jesus will become our love in every way.** John 15:12-17

3. Truth

- a. Jesus is truth- John 14:6
- b. The apostles must have and teach the truth
 - i. V6- Kept it- They were committed to Jesus
 - ii. V8- Know in Truth- **al-ay-thoce**
 - iii. V11- The apostles taught the same message Jesus gave them
 1. Will know it fully after Jesus rose (John 2:22) and when the Holy Spirit comes (John 15:13; 16:12-15)
 - iv. V19- This is their mission and ours- **13:20; 15:26-27; 20:21**
- c. This is how believers will become believers- V20; 25-26; **1 Cor 6:11**
- d. **More than just knowledge this is a living experience- John 14:23**

4. Protection

- a. Jesus did not pray for His own safety. His heart was concerned about the spiritual not the physical- v2
- b. Apostles- The shepherd was about to be struck...what would happen to the sheep?

- i. V11-12- Keep them- **John 6:37-38**
 - ii. V13- To fulfill Jesus' joy by doing the work
 - iii. V14- The world hates them
 - iv. V15-16- Keep them from the evil one. Our protection as well as theirs comes from Almighty God but by our faith and obedience to His commands we stay safe.
 - v. V17- Sanctify them in truth
- c. Believers
- i. V24- That they **may be with me**
 - ii. V25- The world does not know God (by inference they do not know His disciples either
 - iii. V26- Therefore Jesus will continue to proclaim God's name so that the love of God will be in them.

5. Mission

- a. V2-3- Jesus' Mission Was To Give Eternal life
- b. V17-19- Jesus sent them into the world prepared but He prayed for the truth to sanctify them.
- c. V20-21 His prayer was for people to believe so that the world will.
- d. V23- Jesus prayed for His disciples to be perfectly one so that the whole world would believe
- e. V25-26- Jesus prayed that the world would know He and the Father and that He made known His name so the whole world would have Their love in them
 - i. He addresses God as Righteous Father (v. 25). His designation of the Father as righteous could be translated as "Just Father" or "Father of Justice." It places an emphasis upon God as Judge
- f. Problem: world does not know God. Solution: Jesus knows God, and can therefore reveal God to the world. Implementation: Jesus has gathered disciples who believe he came from God, and has revealed God to them. Maintenance Plan: Jesus will continue to reveal God to the world through the community of believers. (College Press NIV Commentary)

Conclusion: It is now time for Jesus to be glorified.