

OUR LORD'S HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER Part 5

JESUS PRAYS FOR OUR FUTURE GLORY

John 17:20-26

Jesus Prays for All Who Believe (17:20)

I do not ask on behalf of these alone = His prayers now span the centuries to include all who will come to faith – Rom. 8:34, Heb. 7:24-25

Believe in Me through their word = the words given them by the Son and the Spirit – John 14:25, 16:33, Eph. 2:19-22

- It was always God's plan to move beyond just Israel and reach out to the nations. – John 10:15-16, Mat. 28:19-20, Rev. 5:9-10

Their word = The Apostles as the ambassadors of Christ spoke on His behalf – Acts 2:42, Gal. 1:8-12, 1Thes. 2:3-4 & 13, 2Pet. 3:1-2, Jude 17

Jesus Prays For Our Unity

Positional Unity:

- All believers are united with the Triune God = John 14:17 & 23
- All believers are positionally glorified in Christ = Rom. 8:30
 - Glorified (8:30) = “glorified” is in the aorist tense (point action) as are “called” and “justified.” These divine acts of God are eternal and therefore simultaneous in the divine mind of God and are all equally certain.
- All believers are united together in the Body of Christ (Church) through the baptism of the Holy Spirit – 1Cor. 12:12-14
 - This positional unity began at Pentecost with the coming of the Holy Spirit. – Acts 2:4
- In Ephesians 4:4-6 Paul lists 7 features of the Holy Spirit created unity:
 - 1st there is one body i.e. the Body of Christ, the Church
 - 2nd one Spirit, the Holy Spirit who indwells in all believers – 1Cor 6:19
 - 3rd one hope of a salvation protected for us by the power of God – 1Peter 1:3-5 & 1:23-25
 - 4th one Lord, Jesus Christ the head of the Church
 - 5th one Faith i.e. anchored in the one true Gospel. “The faith, which was once delivered to the saints.” (Jude 3)
 - 6th one baptism = some say water baptism, others say Spiritual baptism.

- 7th “one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all – Eph. 1:3-6

Practical Unity:

- Requires each of us to live up to our calling as servants of Christ – Eph. 4:1-3, Phil. 2:1-4
- We must be united in truth. – John 17:17-19
 - Compare with Eph. 4:11-16, Col. 2:8-23
- Concerning unity D. A. Carson wrote: “it is not achieved hunting enthusiastically for the lowest common theological denominator, but by common adherence to the apostolic gospel.”

The glory which you have given Me I have given to them (22) = As Christ glorified the Father with His demonstrated obedience so must we through our obedience to Him.

- “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven.” (Mat. 5:16)

Result of true Unity:

- The world may believe that you did send Me – 17:21 & 23
 - United in love sends a powerful message to a world filled with hatred and violence – John 13:34-35
 - The united message of the Gospel – Acts 2:22-24 & 37-41, 3:13-19, 4:8-12, 8:29-35, 17:1-3, 26:19-28
 - We deliver the message; Jesus builds His Church – Mat. 16:18

Jesus Prays for Our Eternal Perfection (17:24-26)

Jesus closes this prayer with full confidence the Father will grant Him all his requests. (25)

- He begins with the phrase “O righteous Father” compare with 17:11 “Holy Father” Jesus is asking things of the Father that the Father has already decreed would happen. (1John 5:14)

Jesus’ threefold request for His people:

- “I desire that they also whom you have given Me, be with Me where I am.” (24) - Compare with 14:1-3
- “That the love wherein You did love Me may be in them, and I in them.” (26)