

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

Lesson #13 -Jesus' Prayer
Scripture Reading: John 17:1-5

03/31/19

Introduction:

1. Throughout the existence of Jesus, He has always been self-less.
2. As the cross approaches, Jesus remains focused upon others. We see this in His prayer.

Proposition: With His departure at hand, Jesus prays for the future.

Interrogative: What does Jesus pray for?

Transition: In this lesson we will focus upon 3 focal points of Jesus' prayer...

I. JESUS PRAYS FOR HIMSELF -17:1-5

A. THE GLORY WITH HIM AND THE FATHER

1. The hour for Jesus had come. (Ie. The cross was nigh.)
2. The cross would be victory for Jesus
 - a. Most would see the cross as defeat, for Jesus it was victory
 - b. Through the cross, men could be free from their sins -Ro 5:6-9; Ep 1:7

B. HIS RETURN TO THE FATHER

1. Jesus had glory with the Father before the world ever was.
 - a. John has repeatedly established the pre-existence of Christ -Jn 1:1-5
 - b. Paul also confirmed that Christ was from the beginning -Co 1:15-18
 - c. Micah's prophecy -Mic 5:2
2. The Father would make Him both Lord and Christ -Ac 2:36

II. JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS DISCIPLES

A. JESUS EQUIPPED HIS DISCIPLES

1. Jesus gave them the words of the Father -17:8
2. Jesus had many private discussions with them -Mt 13:10-ff; 15:12-ff
3. The disciples would be further equipped later -Jn 16:12, 13

B. JESUS PREPARED HIS DISCIPLES

1. The world hated them -17:14, 15
2. Jesus prayed that the Father would not take them out of the world, but keep them from the evil one -17:15
3. They are not of the world; therefore Jesus prays for sanctification by the word of truth -17:16, 17

III. JESUS PRAYS FOR FUTURE BELIEVERS

A. HE PRAYS FOR UNITY AMONG THEM -17:20-23

1. The unity is to be as the union between the Father and Son -vs. 21
2. Qualities needed for unity:
 - a. Like-minded -1Co 1:10
 - b. Humility -Ph 2:1-8
3. This results in the world believing that God sent Jesus into the world -vs. 23

B. HE PRAYS FOR THE GRAND UNION -17:24

1. The great desire of Jesus is to be eternally united with all His disciples
2. His prayer indicates that this is not automatic (ie. One can fall from grace -2Ti 4:11)
3. Jesus has prepared the pathway to glory -Jn 14:1-4
4. We must follow -Jn 14:15

Conclusion:

1. Jesus knows that the cross is nigh.
2. However, Jesus looks beyond the pain and agony of the cross to see all the fruit that will result from it (ie. The eternal salvation of whosoever will).
3. The question is, "What will we do in response to the prayer of Christ?" Will we come to Him if we have not yet? Will we look toward our remaining time upon this earth with renewed zeal and confident expectation of eternal salvation in Him?