

COMMENTARY

Gospel of John Chapter 17:

vs. 1- 5

Following Jesus' discourse on the Holy Spirit and His work, and the resurrection that He will cause to be, Jesus prays. He asks that the Son might be glorified for the express purpose of glorifying the Father, [If Jesus is glorified through the death and resurrection; then men will praise God for His great love]. Jesus speaks concerning the fact that He has been given the authority and has the power to grant eternal life to His followers. Eternal life, Jesus states, is not only heaven, but the opportunity to truly get to know the Father and the Son. This knowledge is begun here on earth and will continue when Christ returns. Jesus states, that He has glorified the Father by completing the work of the Father.

vs. 6-19

Jesus goes from praying for Himself, to praying for His present disciples. He speaks of how He has revealed the Father to them and how they truly know that Jesus is doing the will of the Father. He is concerned for He is about to depart and go to the Father and asks God to protect them so that they might be ONE. Jesus states that He has protected them up to this time and is now turning them over to the Father's care.

Jesus further states that He is saying these things so that His disciples might realize the joy of the Lord within them. They have received God's Word and have been hated by the world because of it, and the fact that they are no longer of the world. He asks the Father to protect them from the evil one [Satan] and to sanctify [set them apart] them by the truth [God's Word]. Jesus has sent them into the world and wants them to be watched over and cared for.

vs. 20-26

Jesus now begins to pray for those who will accept His message at a later time. His prayer continues that these believers (of which we are a part), might be ONE, even as the Father and Son are ONE. These will be given the glory of Christ, so that they might be ONE. By believers being ONE; the world will believe that Jesus is sent by God, that the Father has loved Jesus' followers, just as He has loved Jesus.

Jesus prays for His followers to be present with Him in heaven and to see Him, glorified. He states that He has made His disciples aware of who the Father is and assured God that He will continue to make them aware. This He will do so that, the believers will enjoy the love of God and the presence of Christ in their lives.

STUDY GUIDE

Gospel of John Chapter 17:

1. Why did Jesus want God to glorify the Son?
2. Why was the Son granted authority over all people?
3. What did Jesus say, eternal life is?
4. How did Jesus bring glory on earth, to the Father?
5. Who did Jesus reveal the Father to, and what have these obeyed?
6. What does Jesus ask the Father to do for believers in verses 11-19?
7. According to verse 14, what are those who have received God's Word, not of?
8. What did Jesus pray for, concerning those who would believe in their message, according to verse 21?
9. What would, believers brought to complete unity, let the world know?
10. What 2 things did Jesus pray for, to be in the ones the Father had sent the Son?

BONUS:

1. In what way, do you think, Jesus wanted the Father to glorify Him?
2. How do you respond to the prayer of Jesus, for His disciples?
3. What does Jesus' prayer, concerning the complete unity of believers, mean to you? How do you think that unity can be achieved today?