

JESUS PRAYED FOR YOU

THE WHAT AND THE WHY OF HIS PRAYERS FOR YOU

John 17:20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who ^{will} believe in Me through their word;

John 17:21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

INTRO:

(1) The Chapters Context

- John 13-16
- To Comfort,
- To Teach,
- To Prepare

(2) The Chapters Content

- Jesus prayed
- For Himself,
- His Disciples,
- For Future Believers

(3) The Chapters conclusion

- The Disciples Word
- The Disciples Unity
- The Disciples Impact

OUTLINE:**I. BELIEVE****II. UNITED****III. IMPACT**

I. JESUS PRAYED FOR YOU TO BELIEVE ...IN HIM

John 17:20 “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

**1. JESUS WAS PRAYING FOR
FUTURE BELIEVERS**

**B. JESUS WAS PRAYING FROM
HIS DAY, TILL THE END OF THE
MILLINNIAL PERIOD**

IDEA: Jesus The God man,
in prayer, very earnest and
focused, prays for those who
will believe in ME, or in HIM

NOTICE: The second time
Jesus made a distinction
about who He was praying
for. See **17:9,17:15** and
then **17:6-19**, and now here
one final time. **17:20**

John 17:9 “I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.

John 17:15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world

John 17:6-19 I do not pray for these alone

John 17:20b but also for those who will believe in Me, through their word;

This would include those who were physically alive at that time, but were dead spiritually, but would soon be made alive by faith in Christ, and those who were not alive yet physically, but would be born dead in sins and trespasses, and, as time rolled on, then quickened by the Spirit of God. In this prayer He is not praying for the whole world, but for those who would believe in HIM

John 17:20b but also for those who will believe in Me, through their word;

IDEA: There are several important truths here

(1) Jesus defines those who He is praying for, which are those who will believe.

Remember Jesus never prayed for the world at large, He loved the world, died for them, but never prayed for them

IDEA: To believe to the extent of complete trust and reliance—‘to believe in, to have confidence in, to have faith in, to trust, faith, trust.’

(2) To believe is to have a specific purpose, aim, or goal, *in order that*,

(3) Through their Word. The Apostles communication of the Gospel, and then down through the years, the same gospel, unsullied, unchanged

IDEA: The Apostles all went out preaching, Acts records what they did.

NOTICE: There were some 3,000 converted right off the bat in Acts 2

EXAMPLE: Jesus is very specific here about who the belief is in, and how it came about.

John 17:20c but also for those who will believe in Me, through their word;

NOTICE: Jesus is telling us how salvation is accomplished.

POINT: The plan of salvation, began before the creation of the World, and began being revealed in Gen 3, and into and through the OT, into the NT, and will continue beyond our day, into the Great Tribulation

Ephesians 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

Ephesians 1:4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

Ephesians 1:5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Ephesians 1:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He ^[a]made us accepted in the Beloved.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

Ephesians 1:8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and ^lprudence,

Ephesians 1:9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

Ephesians 1:10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, ^lboth which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.

Ephesians 1:11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Ephesians 1:12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God,

Ephesians 2:9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is not our righteousness; our faith does not constitute our righteousness. Faith is simply the instrument by which we receive the righteousness.

Or, again, take it like this: our faith does not justify us. If you begin to speak like that, you see, you turn faith at once into works. You say, Ah, I am justified because of my faith; it was my faith that did it; and immediately you have got something to boast of.

The other man had not got faith, and I had faith, my faith has saved me. At once you are contradicting Romans 1:17. Our faith does not justify us. It is the righteousness of Jesus Christ that justifies—and nothing else

STORY: About somebody coming to faith in Jesus Christ 47 years ago, 2 months ago, the 6th of April 1973

Paul the Apostle in Acts 9, the Persecutor, believed in Christ, and was saved, and became the preacher

Think of all the true believers you have met over the years

QUOTE: It will not save me to know that Christ is a Saviour; but it will save me to trust him to be my Saviour.

Saving faith is resting faith, the trust which relies entirely on the Saviour.

Faith is the channel of salvation, not the fountain and source of it

Brethren, I believe in that which I could not have invented. I believe that which I cannot understand. I believe that which compels me to adore, and I thank God for a rock that is higher than I am

I JESUS PRAYED FOR YOU TO BELIEVE

II. JESUS PRAYED FOR YOUR UNION WITH GOD

John 17:21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

IDEA: 17:22 the glory which You gave Me. This refers to the believer's participation in all of the attributes and essence of God through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit (v. 10; cf. Col. 1:27; 2 Pet. 1:4), as v. 23 makes clear ("I in them").

1. JESUS WAS NOT PRAYING FOR RELIGIONS TO GET TOGETHER

A. CATHOLICS, ISLAM, JUDAISH, PROTESTANISM,

1st John 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

1st John 4:2 By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God,

1st John 4:3 and every spirit that does not confess ^[a]that Jesus ^[b]Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the *spirit* of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.

2 John 1:9 Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the **doctrine** of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the **doctrine** of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

2 John 1:10 If anyone comes to you and does not bring this **doctrine**, do not receive him into your house nor greet him;

IDEA: The union spoken of here is you, with Christ and the Father

1st Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink ^linto one Spirit.

1st Corinthians 12:14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

NOTICE: It's a very, personal intimate union, it could not be any more personal

IDEA: The word, “one” has been mentioned once, prior to these verses, five times here, and to the end of the chapter

Charles Spurgeon once said, “There is no joy in this world like union with Christ. The more we can feel it, the happier we are.” Union with Christ is the center of our salvation and our sanctification and central to all of our deepest joys in this life.

NOTICE: One means focus on quantitative aspect, *one* in contrast to more than one In a word, UNITY

John 17:21 that they, that they

John 17:22, that they may be one just as We are one:

John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved

NOTICE: The word perfect, means to complete an activity, complete, bring to an end, finish, accomplish

The fact that we are in Christ, means, that God has completed what needs to be completed for sinful man. The resurrection will be the last step.

1. We are initially united with Christ in *regeneration* (Eph. 2:4-5, 10)
2. We appropriate and continue to live out of this union through *faith* (Gal. 2:20; Eph. 3:16-17).
3. We are *justified* in union with Christ (1 Cor. 1:30; 2 Cor. 5:21; Phil. 3:8-9).
4. We are *sanctified* through union with Christ (1 Cor. 1:30; John 15:4-5; Eph. 4:16; 2 Cor. 5:17).
5. We *persevere* in the life of faith in union with Christ (John 10:27-28; Rom. 8:38-39).
6. We are even said to *die* in Christ (Rom. 14:8; 1 Thess. 4:16; Rev. 14:13).
7. We shall be *raised* with Christ (Col. 3:1; 1 Cor. 15:22).
8. We shall be eternally *glorified* with Christ (Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4:16-17).

I. JESUS PRAYED FOR YOUR BELIEVING IN HIM

II. JESUS PRAYED FOR YOUR UNION WITH HIM

III. JESUS PRAYED FOR YOUR IMPACT IN THE WORLD ABOUT HIM

John 17:23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

IDEA: Jesus now speaks of the purpose and effect of our union

NOTICE: That the world may know that have sent ME, and Loved them, as You have loved me

EXAMPLE: Changed lives cannot be denied.

A saved sinners new life, not only shows the change, but it underscores the fact of God actually sending Christ, and it speaks of God's love for us, just as He loved Jesus

that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

Try to imagine that persecuting, foolish, Saul of Tarsus—that very clever, good and religious man. Just think of him 'breathing out threatenings and slaughter'; think of the spirit of hatred that animated him, and contrast it with the man who wrote this letter (Philippians), and there you will see what the gospel can do

Tasteless salt and hidden light are good for nothing! Salt arrests decay in our world, and light banishes darkness. Salt is hidden, but light is visible. Both are needed in the world, and both must give of themselves in service