

Jesus' Prayer of Consecration Over His Disciples

John 17:1-26

August 6, 2023

1. Jesus' Prayer for the Glory of God (1-8)

- a. The mission of Father and Son is to bring Glory to God (1-3).
 - i. Jesus glorifies the Father by giving eternal life to those the Father has given Him (2).
 1. It was always God's intention to bring many to glory (Hebrews 2:10).
 2. This eternal life is mediated by Jesus, Who alone has authority to mediate life (cf. 14:6).
 - ii. Eternal life is obtained through a relationship with God through Jesus Christ (3).
 1. Entering into a relationship with the One True God is the only entrance into eternal life.
 2. The only way to have a relationship with God is to enter into a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- b. Jesus glorified the Father by declaring Him to His disciples (4-9).
 - i. Jesus glorified His Father on earth by finishing this declarative, disciple making work (4).
 - ii. On this basis, Jesus requests what already belongs to Him, the glory of God (5).
 - iii. Jesus had revealed the Father to His disciples, and they responded in faith (6-8).
 1. They kept His Word (6).
 2. They believed that Jesus' message was from God (7).
 3. They believed that Jesus was sent from God (8).

2. Jesus' Prayer for His Present Disciples (9-19)

- a. Jesus defines His disciples (9-11).
 - i. They are God's (9).
 - ii. They are Christ's (10a).
 - iii. They bring glory to Christ (10b).
 1. Jesus is glorified in the disciples.
 2. Jesus is honored and displayed to the world through the disciples.
 - iv. They are now the instruments God is using in this world (11a).
 - v. They are kept by their Holy Father (11b-12).
 1. Through Christ, our Holy God, is now our Holy Father.
 2. Our Holy Father's desire for us is intimate unity with the Father.
 - vi. They are to experience Christ's joy (13; cf 15:11; 16:24).
- b. Jesus consecrates His disciples (14-19).
 - i. Jesus dedicates His disciples to minister to a world that hates them (14).
 - ii. Jesus commissions His disciples to remain in the world, but kept from evil (15).
 - iii. Jesus reminds His disciples that they from the world just as Jesus is not from the world (16).
 - iv. Jesus consecrates His disciples through the truth of God's Word (17).
 1. We are set apart by the Word.
 2. We are set apart to the ministry of the Word.

3. Jesus' Prayer for His Future Disciples (20-26)

- a. Jesus prays for our unity in our relationship with the Father (20-21).
 - i. This unity with the Father should produce unity among believers.
 - ii. This unity with the Father should result in the world being reconciled to God (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:19).
- b. Jesus prays that we would participate in God's glory (22).
 - i. This glory does not belong to the church, but the church enjoys God's glory and manifests God's glory to this world.
 - ii. The church manifests the glory of God as a result of their intimate relationship with God.
- c. Jesus prays that we would enjoy intimate fellowship with Him (23-26).
 - i. We enjoy intimate fellowship with Jesus through the indwelling Holy Spirit (23a).
 - ii. Our intimate fellowship with Jesus results in a powerful testimony to the world (23b).
 - iii. Our intimate fellowship with Jesus results in a rich experience of the Father's love (23c-26)

Conclusion:

1. Is the mission of your life to bring glory to God?
2. Have you embraced the ministry Christ has given you in this world?
3. Are you nurturing intimate fellowship with your Father to accomplish this mission?