

Morning Sermon June 16, 2019

“What does Jesus Pray for?” John 17:6-26

I. He prays for keeping through His Father’s Name –

¹¹ Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. John 17:11

1. His praying that His people would be kept through His Father’s Name is very similar to what he prayed, John 17:1-5 and He taught His people (us) to pray –

⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Matthew 6:9

A. The ultimate aim of these prayers is the same, the hallowing, the honoring, the glorifying of God’s Name. This was also what Jesus prayed when He was praying for Himself –

...Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, John 17:1 B

B. We are to live for, pray for, the hallowing, glorifying of the Father’s Name because we are His:

- *We are His children –*

³ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1

- *We are His family –*

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, Ephesians 3:14-15

2. Here Jesus is praying His people will reap the benefit of being KEPT through His (The Heavenly Father’s Name)

We are kept through the Father’s Name from:

A. The temptations of an ungodly world - but these are in the world - :11

¹⁵ Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶ For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷ And the world is passing away, and the

lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1 John 2:15-17

We are kept from the temptations, the traps, the LOVE of the things of ungodly world, by God’s Name, because by God’s grace, as God’s children, as His family, His people we desire to honor His Name.

Honoring God’s Name, Loving the Father and loving the world and its things are OPPOSITES! So Jesus prays we will be kept by the Father’s Name!

B. from the evil one –

¹⁴ I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. John 17:14-15

- *When we don’t do, don’t love what the world loves, the world will hate us, even persecute us – John 15:18-25*
 - *Jesus does not pray God will take us out / we should not take ourselves out – like Monks in a secluded place ... there is a balance in the world but not of it!*
 - *Jesus prays we will be kept from the evil one, Satan, the Devil, the ruler and god of this age –*

The goal of the god of this age, Satan is to blind men to God’s Name and glory, our goal is to keep shining the light of the Gospel –

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. ⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake. ⁶ For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

3. His praying for our keeping (through the Father’s Name) means we would KEEP shining as light, that we would keep our saltiness as salt – ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:13-15

II. *He prays for sanctification through His Truthful Word –*

¹⁷ Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. John 17:17
Sanctification happens when we are more and more influenced by truth of God’s word (the Bible) and less and less swayed by the lies of an ungodly world.

1. *Yet, our sanctification is because we are sent, even to the world –*

¹⁸ As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. John 17:18

- A. *The easy way of going to the world is being like the world. If we are like the world the world will embrace us.*
- B. *Yet, the goal is influencing, changing the world, we cannot change them by becoming them, they NEED to become like us, much more like Christ!*

2. *We have Jesus’ sanctification as our example –*

¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. John 17:19

How did Jesus sanctify Himself?

A. *He desired nothing from this world more than His mission –*

²⁰ And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air *have* nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay *His* head.” Matthew 8:20

³³ Therefore the disciples said to one another, “Has anyone brought Him *anything* to eat?” ³⁴ Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. John 4:33-34

3. *We are to be like Jesus, weaned from this world and love of it, because we have a different home –*

¹⁷ Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. ¹⁸ For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ: ¹⁹ whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is* their belly, and whose glory *is* in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. ²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, Philipians 3:17-20

III. *He prays for unity –*

²⁰ “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 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. ²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: 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. John 17:20-23

- 1. *This is a prayer for us who believe through their word, meaning that same word that sanctifies – John 17:17*
- 2. *Our oneness is first with those before us, even those now in Heaven – John 17:20-21 A*
- 3. *Our unity is with the triune God – John 17:21 B*
- 4. *Our unity is in God’s love – John 17:22-23*

IV. *He prays for us to be with Him in Heaven –*

²⁴ “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. ²⁶ And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare *it*, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.” John 17:24-26

- 1. *With Him where He is? About to go to the cross? About to go to Heaven? Both?*
- 2. *If we are to behold His glory it is both: in the cross and for eternity in Heaven. 1 John 3:1-3*

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