

<sup>23</sup>In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. <sup>24</sup>Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full. <sup>25</sup>“These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father. <sup>26</sup>In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf; <sup>27</sup>for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father. <sup>28</sup>I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again and going to the Father.” <sup>29</sup>His disciples \*said, “Lo, now You are speaking plainly and are not using a figure of speech. <sup>30</sup>Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God.” <sup>31</sup>Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup>Behold, an hour is coming, and has *already* come, for you to be scattered, each to his own *home*, and to leave Me alone; and *yet* I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. <sup>33</sup>These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.” **John 16:23-33 NASB**

### **The Holy Spirit: Empowering the Priesthood of the Believer**

- Jesus makes it very plain that the outpouring of God’s Spirit will open a new door for their personal prayer lives. **(v23-27)**
  - Ask and receive so that your joy may be made full.
  - You ask in my name (I won’t be doing this for you is the message Jesus is giving here.)
  - Jesus is our mediator, our intercessor, our representative.
- The Holy Spirit brings understanding and clarity to our confusion. **(v28-31)**
  - Spiritual things are spiritually discerned.
  - He spoke and they understood and believed...most often this process is reversed.
- The Holy Spirit: our continual Commander and Companion. **(v32-33)**
  - He never leaves us alone.
  - He plans for our peace to be in Him even in the midst of the trouble that defines this world.

Jesus answered them, Do you now believe? [Do you believe it at last?] **John 16:31 AMPC**

His conquest is complete and accomplished; His victory is everlasting.

### **The High Priestly Prayer of Jesus (John 17:1-12)**

**17** Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, <sup>2</sup>even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. <sup>3</sup>This is eternal life, that

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they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. <sup>5</sup> Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. <sup>6</sup> “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You; <sup>8</sup> for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received *them* and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me. <sup>9</sup> I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; <sup>10</sup> and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> I am no longer in the world; and *yet* they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, *the name* which You have given Me, that they may be one even as *We are*. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled.

**John 17:1-12 NASB**

**17** When Jesus had spoken these things, He lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, Father, the hour has come. Glorify *and* exalt *and* honor *and* magnify Your Son, so that Your Son may glorify *and* extol *and* honor *and* magnify You. <sup>2</sup> [Just as] You have granted Him power *and* authority over all flesh (all humankind), [now glorify Him] so that He may give eternal life to all whom You have given Him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life: [it means] to know (to perceive, recognize, become acquainted with, and understand) You, the only true *and* real God, and [likewise] to know Him, Jesus [as the] Christ (the Anointed One, the Messiah), Whom You have sent. **John 17:1-3 AMPC**

- The hour had come for the Father to glorify and magnify His Son so that Jesus could glorify and magnify His Father.
- Jesus has been granted authority over all humankind and His glorification will empower Him to give eternal life to all the Father has given Him...that is, all who believe.
- Jesus defines eternal life.
  - To know, perceive, and understand God, the only true and real God.
  - And to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Anointed One that God has sent.

<sup>5</sup> And now, Father, glorify Me along with Yourself *and* restore Me to such majesty *and* honor in Your presence as I had with You before the world existed. **John 17:5 AMPC**

- Jesus prays to return to the majesty and honor in God’s presence that He had before the creation.
- Jesus reports to God in His prayer that He manifested the name of God to His disciples...
- He revealed the very ‘self’ of God...He revealed, made open, made evident, who God is.
- He made clear that all the Words and all the ‘works’ belong to the Father.

<sup>8</sup> For the [uttered] words that You gave Me I have given them; and they have received *and* accepted [them] and have come to know positively *and* in reality [to believe with

absolute assurance] that I came forth from Your presence, and they have believed *and* are convinced that You did send Me. **John 17:8 AMPC**

- Jesus prays for His disciples. (v9-12)
  - He prays for and makes request of God specifically for His disciples...NOT the whole world, but for His closest followers.
  - He is fully aware that He is ascending to the Father, but the disciples are staying where they are.
  - He asks God to ‘keep them in His name’, to keep them in close relationship by the power of God’s name.
  - He wants the disciples to be ‘one’ even as the Father and Son are one, so He asks God to safeguard, preserve, and protect them.
  - Jesus says in v10:

All [things that are] Mine are Yours, and all [things that are] Yours belong to Me; and I am glorified in (through) them. [They have done Me honor; in them My glory is achieved.] **John 17:10 AMPC**

- These people are Mine and they are Yours.
- They have done me ‘honor’. I am glorified in them...in them My glory is achieved...so please ‘keep’ them from the evil one.

While I was with them, I kept *and* preserved them in Your Name [in the knowledge and worship of You]. Those You have given Me I guarded *and* protected, and not one of them has perished *or* is lost except the son of perdition [Judas Iscariot—the one who is now doomed to destruction, destined to be lost], that the Scripture might be fulfilled. **John 17:12 AMPC**

- Jesus is about to leave the disciples ‘alone’ for the first time and He prays for them to stay ‘together’ together.

<sup>13</sup> But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil *one*. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. <sup>20</sup> “I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup> The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; <sup>23</sup> I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> “O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; <sup>26</sup> and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it

known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.” **John 17:13-26 NASB**

- Jesus asks for His joy and delight to be made full in the disciples...”that His enjoyment may be perfected in their own souls, that they may have My gladness within them, filling their hearts”. (v13 AMPC)
- He asks God not to remove them from this world, but to protect them from evil.
- He declares that the disciples are not of this world just as He is not. So He wants them set apart in truth...set apart in the genuine reality of God.
- Jesus is ‘giving it all up’ for the disciples and for His earthly mission: He is asking God for the same ‘process of destiny fulfilled’ to be real for them.

<sup>20</sup> Neither for these alone do I pray [it is not for their sake only that I make this request], but also for all those who will ever come to believe in (trust in, cling to, rely on) Me through their word *and* teaching, <sup>21</sup> That they all may be one, [just] as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, so that the world may believe *and* be convinced that You have sent Me. <sup>22</sup> I have given to them the glory *and* honor which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one: <sup>23</sup> I in them and You in Me, in order that they may become one *and* perfectly united, that the world may know *and* [definitely] recognize that You sent Me and that You have loved them [even] as You have loved Me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also whom You have entrusted to Me [as Your gift to Me] may be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory, which You have given Me [Your love gift to Me]; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. **John 17:20-24 AMPC**

- Not only is Jesus praying for ‘them’, He is also praying for us who believe.
- He wants us all who believe to live in the reality of union with God...in the unity of the Spirit in the bond of Peace.

<sup>29</sup> For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; <sup>30</sup> and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. <sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? **Romans 8:29-32 NASB**

<sup>38</sup> For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:38-39 NASB**

- Jesus closes his prayer by asking that...”the love with which You loved me may be in them and I in them...” This is the ‘perfect one-ness’!