

John 17

Continued to exhort them to abide in him.
Reminded them again not to sorrow because of what he has told them.
Expedient, because then the Comforter will come.

Spirit would testify.
Reprove the world of sin, and righteousness, and judgement.
Because he is leaving, but returning one day to bring judgement.
The prince of this world is judged.
Satan's man was cast out and destroyed.

They would have trouble as when a woman is in travail.
Born again.
Same thing that happens when we are born again.
We are dead, but we are giving life by the power of God.
We are filled with his Spirit, with grace and life and truth.

So in the end they will have joy.
They will ask of God himself, and whatsoever they ask, he will give them.
Grace for grace.
That their joy might be full.
Having that Spirit, being born again, as children of God.

Then, he told them, they would know all things.
Because they have loved him, and therefore his Father loves them, and will do this for them.
And so he told them again plainly that he was going to the Father.
And finally they thought that they understood. And once again they professed belief that he came forth from God.
But Jesus told them, "You believe now, and you rejoice in that, but that isn't going to be your joy. Because I'm about to leave bodily. But I've told you of how I will return in Spirit. So that despite the tribulation that you'll experience in the world, in me you might still have peace. Knowing that once I am gone you will be able to ask in my name, and your joy will then be full. Through that, through the word, and the Spirit, you will overcome the world, just as I have overcome the world."

Verse 1

John 17:1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

So Jesus said he would not talk much with them, because the prince of this world was coming. And so now he has finished speaking to them, and in this chapter will be a prayer to his Father.

He's told them these things, but they haven't understood all of it, so he will now commit them to God.
He has done his work, spoken the word. They are now in the Father's hands.

“Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee.”

As he told them, the Son is going to be glorified, that he might glorify the Father.

Verse 2

John 17:2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

So this glory that Jesus asks the Father to give him is complementary to the power that he has already been given.

He's been given power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as his Father has given him.

Those that have come to him, that have been taught of God.

And so he's been given that power, and now he asks his Father to glorify him further, just as he has given him that power and glory.

Verse 3

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

And that eternal life comes not from seeing miracles.

Not even just from hearing the word.

But from knowing.

From knowing the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom he sent.

And as Christ as told them, that knowledge, that knowing of the Father and of the Son, will come to them through the Spirit.

When they continue in his word, and ask in his name.

Verse 4

John 17:4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

So Jesus said that the Father had given him that power over all flesh, to judge and damn, and to give eternal life.

He has already received that power, because he is the Son of man.

And so he has declared that.

And through that he has glorified the Father on the earth.

By finishing the work the Father gave him, to declare his name, declare his word, declare the power he has given to the Son.

And now, having finished that, he's asked that as the Son has been glorified through that, to the glory of the Father,

that so now he would again glorify the Son in this word, to the glory of God.

Verse 5

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Even the full dose of glory, the full glory he had before, when as the Word in the beginning he was with God and was God.

He wants that fullness of glory, full of grace and truth, grace for grace.

And so just as he did the other work, of showing the Father to the world, and received glory unto the Father, so now again through this work, let him be glorified with him, to the full.

Verse 6

John 17:6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

So as he said, he did the work he was given.

To manifest the name of the Father to those that had been taught of him.

Those that were of his fold.

Those that were in the world, but which the Father gave him out of the world.

And the Father has given them to him, and he has manifested the Father to them, and they have kept the Father's word, that he has spoken.

That work is done.

Verse 7

John 17:7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

They've confessed that they need not to ask him, because they are sure that he knows all things, and came forth from God.

Verse 8

John 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

John 16:30 Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.

Verse 9

John 17:9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

We've seen how at this time Jesus is focused on his disciples.

He says that he's not praying for the world.
He's praying just for those that his Father has given him.
Because they are his Father's.

And what he is about to ask for them, is something that only those that belong to his Father can receive.

He's not going to pray that for the world.
What he wants cannot happen through the world.
Only through those that have received his words, and known sure that he came out from God.

Verse 10

John 17:10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.

He is praying for those that are his Father's, because his flock is one with his Father's flock.
These here that are his flock, they belong to his Father.
And all those that are his Father's, belong to him.
And he will be glorified in them. The Son will be glorified in them.
And so he prays for them.
That he might indeed be glorified in them, because as he said before, it is through that which he glorifies his Father.

Verse 11

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

He is glorified in them, but he is no longer going to be glorified personally by doing the works, as he has done.

He is not going to be able to glorify his Father through that, in that way.

He is coming to him, to partake of the glory which he had before the world began.

And yet he wants that glory to be manifested on the earth still.

And in is in them that that will happen, that he will be glorified and glorify his Father.

And so he prays that as he leaves this world, his Father would keep those that he has given him.

Just as he has admonished them to abide in him, so now he prays that his Father would keep them in him.

Just as he's commanded them to love one another, now he prays to the Father that they might be one. As he and his Father are.

That as he has told them they might be filled with the Spirit, and be in him. All be one.

He is asking that God might see them through, that this command that he has given them would be fulfilled.

He asks his Father to keep them.

And he says how that will happen. He will keep them through his own name.

The Father, through his own name, will keep them.

As he said, they aren't just his, they are his Father's.
They aren't just to be in him, but in his Father.
They aren't just going to be known by his name, but by his Father's name.

Because as he said, they won't ask him. They will ask his Father directly.
They won't pray to him, he won't pray the Father for them.
They will ask God the Father. That's what he's told them to do.

And so what is it that the name of God represents here?
He's already told us.

John 17:6 I have manifested **thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and *they have kept thy word*.

"Thy name" is paralleled with "thy word."
You'll see that continue in the rest of this passage.

So what is it for the Father to keep them through his name?
It is for them to continue to keep the Father's word, which the Son has shown them.
To be kept in his name, is to continue in the word.

And to ask the Father, having now known him through the Son,
To keep the word that they have heard, and ask for what they were told to ask for,
and then to receive it. The Spirit of truth.

Verse 12

John 17:12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.

While he was here, he kept them in the Father's name.
But now he is leaving.
And so he asks that the Father would continue to do that.
To do what?
What all of them have done, except one. The one that was lost that the scripture might be fulfilled.
What have they done?
That one was not clean.
But they are clean.
How? He told them: by the word which he has spoken unto them.
That one fulfilled the scripture, but they kept the word.
And so it was through that word, that he kept them in his Father's name.
And now he asks his Father to carry on that ministry.

Verse 13

John 17:13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.

He is about to leave, but he asks his Father to continue to keep them in his name, that they might abide in him, that they might have his joy fulfilled in themselves.
He is one with the Father, and is returning to be with him. And he told them that was reason for rejoicing.
And he has asked that his Father would keep them, that they might experience that also.
That as he said, when they abide in him, they would receive the Spirit, they would be made one with him, and their joy would be full.

And so he has spoken these things in the world, with them standing by, that they might here, that they might know that he has asked this of his Father.
And that through that, through his word, they might believe, they might abide, might be clean, and be purged yet again.

Verse 14

John 17:14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

He said that he has kept them in his Father's name.
What did he do? He gave them his Father's word.

And they have come to him, to his Father. To be in his Father's name.
They've left the world.
They aren't of the world. They are of his, and of his Father's.
And so they are not of the world, just as he is not of the world.
And as he's said, the world has hated them as it has hated him.
They are going to have tribulation in the world.
But he doesn't want their heart to be troubled.
He doesn't want them to give up and quit.
He wants them to continue in his word. To stay in his Father's name.
And so he asks that his Father would keep them.

Because it is through them that he and his Father will be glorified.

Verse 15

John 17:15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.

And so he doesn't ask that he'd take them out of the world.
But that he'd be glorified in them.
That they would be kept in his name, that his Father would keep them from the evil.
That they'd be not of the world, but be clean, be of him.

Verse 16

John 17:16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

And so he says it again.
They are not of the world, just as he is not of the world.
They are of God.
So let his Father keep them, until they receive the Spirit, and are born again as children of God.
Let him keep them, keep them in his word, in his name.

Verse 17

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

They are not of the world, so let it be seen that they are not of the world.
Let them glorify him.

Let them be set apart, let them be sanctified, let them be kept in his name.
Let them be sanctified through the truth.
Through his word.
For the word, is truth.
That is what sets them apart from the world, and keeps them, and sanctifies them.

And so as he has given them the word, as they have received it, let him keep them in it. Let them continue in it. Let him reveal the full truth to them, the sanctification of the Spirit.

Verse 18

John 17:18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

Because the word which he has committed unto them is not just for them.
As he said, when the Comforter comes, he will reprove the world.
And so they are sent into the world, just as the Father sent him into the world.
But as the Father has sanctified him through the truth that he has given him, that he has kept, and declared,
so let the Father sanctify them by the truth that he will give them, and that they will keep, and declare.
Through that same word that they will keep, let him keep them.

Verse 19

John 17:19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

It is for this very reason that he does these things.
It is for this reason that he sanctifies himself, so and returns to his Father.
It is expedient for them if he goes away. Because then the Spirit of truth will come.
That same Spirit that has been in him. It will be in them. That they also might be sanctified through the truth.

Verse 20

John 17:20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

So he said he was only praying for his own, and not for the world.

But they are going to be sent out into the world.

And so he prays not only for them, but for those who will believe on him through their word.

The word of the Father, that has been and will be given them.

Verse 21

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

And for them all he asks the same thing that has been the end of his request for those whom he already has.

That they all would be one, just as he is one with his Father.

That he and his Father might be in them, and they in him and his Father.

That they too would be sanctified, and him glorified.

That the world would believe that God has sent him.

He is asking that just as he has asked that God would keep these, and they would receive the Spirit, that those also who believe would receive the Spirit of truth.

Verse 22

John 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

That's interesting. He says he has given them his glory.

What is his glory?

What did he say he has given them?

His Father's word.

So his glory is the word. That he is the Word. The word of God, the One from the beginning who was with God and was God and made all things.

That when that word was spoken, it created a perfect creation.

He wants them to have that same glory.

To be filled with the Spirit of truth.

To know the word of truth.

And to speak it.

And that when they speak it, and men believe it, it would make them perfect.

That just as there is power in his word, because it is his Father's word,

that so they would be one, even as he and his Father are one,

and so their word would be the Father's word. That they would speak through the Spirit.

And through that word, when men hear it, when they believe,

they would be cleansed and sanctified and made also one with the Father.

Be born as children of God.

Verse 23

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

He would be in them, through the Spirit, just as his Father is in him.
And through that he prays that they all would be made perfect in one.
And that through that, the world would know that God had sent him, and has loved them, as he loved him.
That as he said, they might be sanctified, and he might be glorified.

And the ultimate end of that is this, which he promised them back in chapter 14:

Verse 24

John 17:24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

That they would all be together in one place physically, just as they are all one spiritually.
That they might follow him afterwards.
That they might be where he is. That they might too come to the Father.
That as they have glorified him on the earth, so they would behold his glory in heaven.
The glory that he has, as the Word, from the beginning.
For the Father has loved him from before the foundation of the world.

Verse 25

John 17:25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.

So again he emphasizes that he is not praying for the world.
But for those who are not of the world.
Not for wicked sinners who love darkness.
But for those that have heard the word, and loved the light, and sought it, and come to it, and been taught of God, and received the word, and believed.
He is asking that God would keep those who will glorify his name.
Not those who blaspheme it.

And so he emphasizes that. That this is expedient. That these are those who can be made one with him and his Father.

And he does that because he knows that God is holy.
He calls him here, "O righteous Father."
God cannot become one with sin. With darkness. With unrighteousness. With death.
With those of the world, who have not known him.
But these are those that are not of the world, that have known him.
That want that life, that light, that freedom from sin, that righteousness.

His righteousness.

And when they saw the Son declaring that righteousness, that life, that light, that word, that grace,
they knew him.

They knew that he was of God. That he was the Son. That the Father had sent him.

And so it is for them that he asks this.

So let his Father fulfill that word, that grace, that truth, on which they have believed.

Verse 26

John 17:26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

He has declared the Father's name. The Father's word of truth.

And so let the Father fulfill it.

As they've kept the word, so let him keep them.

That he may yet declare his name unto them again.

And that the love wherewith his Father has loved them may be in them and he in them.

That they might fulfill that word, his commandment, and love one another.

Being filled with the love of the Father. The grace of the Son. The Spirit of God.