

The Gospel of John

The Passion of Christ John 12-21



John 17:20-26

3/15/20 PM

JESUS' HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER - For All Believers

Introduction:

Arthur Pink identifies seven petitions of Christ in this prayer. He prays for their preservation (vs. 11), their jubilation (vs. 13), their emancipation from evil (vs. 15), their sanctification (vs. 17), their unification (vs. 21), their association with Himself (vs. 24), their gratification (vs. 24)

I. HE PRAYS FOR THEIR WITNESS TO THE WORLD (17:20-23)

A. Through their word. (vs. 20-21)

"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word"

"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"

B. Through their unity. (vs. 22-23)

"The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one"

"I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity"
(John 14:23; Romans 8:9; Colossians 1:27)

"so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me"

The World's Bible

by Annie Johnson Flint

Christ has no hands but our hands
To do His work today;
He has no feet but our feet
To lead men in His way;
He has no tongues but our tongues
To tell men how He died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to His side.

We are the only Bible
The careless world will read;
We are the sinner's Gospel,
We are the scoffer's creed;
We are the Lord's last message,
Given in deed and word;
What if the type is crooked?
What if the print is blurred?

What if our hands are busy
With work other than His?
What if our feet are walking
Where sin's allurements is?
What if our tongues are speaking
Of things His lips would spurn?
How can we hope to help Him
And hasten His return?

II. HE PRAYS FOR THEIR WALK IN THE WORLD (17:24-26)

A. By seeing His glory. (vs. 24)

"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”

B. By experiencing His love. (vs. 25-26)

“O righteous Father”

“although the world has not known You, yet I have known You and these have known that You sent Me”

I John 3:1-3

“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”

Ephesians 3:14-21

Conclusion:

- 1) Christian unity is not an organization or an external uniformity.
- 2) Christian unity is based on our common salvation and is expressed by our common love, common purpose, and common mission.
- 3) While we must strive to love and accept all whom Christ has truly saved, we must be careful not to compromise essential biblical truth.
- 4) While we need layers of separation as individuals and as a church, these layers may be different at individual and corporate levels.