

## **Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ**

### **The Lord's Prayer, Part 2**

Last time...We eavesdropped on our High Priest Jesus Christ praying to His Father

- For Himself
  - He has glorified the Father and finished His work
  - The glory which He had with the Father before the world was
- For the 11 disciples
  - I have given them Your words, which they have received and believed
  - Keep them thru Your name (as I have kept them in Your name)
  - My joy would be fulfilled in them
  - They are in the world but not of the world, as He is not of the world
  - Sanctify them by Your truth, Your word is truth
  - I sanctify Myself for them, that they might be sanctified thru the truth

Jesus is going to sanctify Himself in the Garden of Gethsemane (next);  
He yielded His will to the Father (Matt 26:39-44) in a Garden,  
unlike the 1<sup>st</sup> Adam in another Garden

Sanctification (life-long process of laying down our will for the Father's  
will) accompanies salvation (one time event, by grace)

This time...our eavesdropping continues and The Lord's Prayer concludes  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> section of the prayer of our High Priest is...for you and me!  
We are in John 17

v20-21 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe:  
Our High Priest prays not only for His 11 disciples but for all those who  
believe in Jesus thru

- Spirit-filled preaching and teaching
- Spirit-inspired words
  - Gospels
  - Epistles
  - Revelation

He prayed for us, collectively and individually, before we even existed!  
Facing the Cross, Jesus is praying for us who will believe in Him

Jesus' prayer for us:

1. That we may be as are the Father and Son – one, unified, inseparable
  - character – His...Light, Life, Love (1 John)
  - thought – His...peace and not evil (Jer 29:11)
  - action – His...love is action

One...in union, in one accord, like-minded, undivided...  
keeps us, the Body of Christ, focused, encouraged, strong

2. That we be one in Them/"Us" of Gen 1:26-27/Triune God of Father and Son and Spirit

The Father is in the Son  
The Son is in the Father  
The Father and Son are in us (John 14:23)  
We are in the Father and the Son

3. That the world might believe the testimony of God thru us

- The Gospel is a life-changing message of spiritual revival and transformation (Rom 12:2), not a social reformation project
- Our testimony is of life-giving reconciliation (2 Cor 5:20)
- Our evidence is transcending joy and peace

We...the Church...must be careful to not hinder or frustrate the prayer of Jesus

- our independence (vs our dependence)
  - Gal 3:3
  - Gal 1:6-9
  - Phil 3:3
  - Rev 2-3
- divisions
  - Denominations that divide rather than multiply
  - Churches that split because grace in man's heart has failed
  - competing with each other vs working together (in-fighting in the Body)
  - key phrase in Acts: "in one accord"  
united, unanimous, one mind (Phil 2:5-8)
  - Rom 16:17-18
- unholy alliances...ecumenicalism  
Unity cannot come at the expense of the Truth (v17)

v22-23 the glory...I have given them...perfect in one...world may know:  
Jesus' glory of

- eternal life
- victory over death (1 Cor 15:57)
- the resurrection

has been given to us by our Lord and Savior and High Priest Jesus Christ so that

1. we may be
  - a. one as is the Eternal Godhead (Deut 6:4)
  - b. one in our Creator and Savior
  - c. made perfect/complete/whole in one/unity

2. the world may know/understand
  - a. that the Father sent Jesus with the ministry of reconciliation
  - b. that the Father loves us (His children) as He loves His Son

How will the world know those things?

By our speech...words, tone, countenance, sharing the Gospel

By our actions...doing what we preach, walking the talk

By our lifestyles...daily, not occasionally

By our joy and peace and contentment...in all circumstances

Phil 4:6-14

By our comfort...gladly, freely shared with the un-comfortable

2 Cor 1:3-4

v24 I will...be with Me:

Jesus asks the desire of His heart of the Father:

That we would be with Him where He is!

You, me, we are a gift from the Father to the Son

The Son's desire is that we be with Him, all separation removed

He wants us to gaze upon His glory, the glory the Father gave Him before the foundation of the world because the Father loves the Son!

We will in the Throne Room of God (2 Cor 5:8, Rev 4-5)

This is the love wherewith the Father loves us!

“as” in v23....as He loves His Son!!!

v25 righteous Father...not known...known...love...in:

“Father”, “Holy Father”, now “righteous Father”

The world is filled with religious people...for man was created with a heart to worship

However, fallen man worships corruptly...false gods made in their image vs the true God who made them in His image

Man has been deceived by the prince of this world into thinking they know and worship God...but many do not know Him and are without excuse

Note: this applies to “Christians” as well! (Matt 7:21-23)

They only way to know the True God is to know Jesus Christ (v3)

Deut 19:15

John 8:16-19

1 John 5:6-13

v26 I have declared:

Jesus has proclaimed His Father to us, and will continue to proclaim Him...  
by the indwelling Spirit of Truth (John 15:26 and John 16:13)

Jer 31:3 The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, *saying*, Yea, I have  
loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness  
have I drawn thee

Jer 31:13b I will turn their mourning into joy, and will comfort them, and  
make them rejoice from their sorrow

John 6:44

Fear did not draw me to a right relationship with God in Jesus Christ,  
love and mercy and grace did

Rom 2:4

Jesus' prayer of love for us  
The Father loves the Son and the Son loves the Father  
And the Father loves us (v23)  
That love (1 John 4:8) is in (residing) us  
And Jesus (the Spirit of Christ) is in us

## **Application**

### **1. Personal...me:**

The Lord lovingly caused to me to examine my shortcomings as a pastor/teacher

2 Cor 1:24 Not for that we have dominion over your faith, but are helpers of your joy:  
for by faith ye stand

I love you and want the best for you,

I want you to grow in your relationship with Jesus, to want more like I want more

I want to be a helper of your joy...by effectively preaching and teaching the Word of God

I want those who are lost to be found, drawn by the love and grace and goodness of God

Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God...taught simply

I need to preach and teach

simply (for the lost and "young")

AND

deeply (for the "mature" and those who want more)

I need the Holy Spirit to teach me how to do that  
I am teachable, I am a good and attentive student

All correction and instruction start in my prideful heart.  
So please pray for me.

## **2. Believer:**

We have covered a lot of territory in the Last Words of Jesus Christ, recorded in John 13-17

John 13:34-35  
John 14:1-3  
John 14:12  
John 14:16-17  
John 14:23  
John 14:26  
John 14:27  
John 15:4a  
John 15:13  
John 15:19  
John 15:26  
John 16:13-14  
John 16:20b  
John 16:22b  
John 16:27  
John 16:33  
John 17:13  
John 17:17  
John 17:20-26

In Jesus' Last Words, His love and joy stand out to me

### Love

- Selfless, self-last, sacrificial
- From before the foundation of the world – before anything was
- As the Father loves His Son
- Indwelling, life-giving and life-changing

### Joy

The joy of the LORD is our strength  
What does joy look like?

- A. Joy is a love so profound that the troubles of life are lifted  
Life is like the seas – sometimes smooth sailing, many times degrees of rough sailing (from mildly to severely)  
No matter the circumstances, no matter how rough the seas, joy is that which brings a smile to your face

Perhaps a thing you love to do that yields peace and comfort:  
a hobby or watching the StL Cardinals beat the Chicago Cubs  
But probably not a thing because, whereas a thing may distract us from the rough  
seas, it only masks the trouble for a little while

Joy comes from a person or persons that merely seeing or being with them

- makes you smile
- makes the troubles of life melt away

For me:

- my Lord
- my wife
- my children
- my grandchildren
- my brothers and sisters in Christ

When the seas of life are rough, they bring a smile to my face and help me to  
realize/remember that

- things are not all that bad
- I can make it thru today
- the seas will calm

because they are with me and I am with them

Joy is a love so profound that it can “change” the circumstances by changing my  
perspective of those circumstances, thereby “lifting” the trouble from me

B. Joy is being in the will of our heavenly Father

Prov 21:15a it is joy to the just (declared innocent) to do judgment/justice...  
doing the right thing, pursuing righteousness

Jesus’ joy was doing the will of the Father

His joy is our joy when we do the will of the Father

C. Joy is being in the presence of God...now, at any time, and forever

Ps 140:13 Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright  
shall dwell in thy presence

Ps 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence *is* fulness of  
joy; at thy right hand *there are* pleasures for evermore

Love and joy

Know this!

Oh, how Jesus loves us!

Oh, how the Father loves us!

How does the Father love us?

He gave us His Son, Who gave us eternal life that we will be with Him!!!

Rom 5:6-8

He gave us the Holy Spirit, the Comforter

He has moved in!

He, the Giver of every good and perfect gift, gave us to His Son!!!

With love and joy He has given us peace and hope

Rom 5:1-5

Rom 15:13

Col 1:27 Christ in you, the hope of glory

Life is hard, life is not fair...but be comforted, encouraged, and edified in the love and joy of God, in all circumstances

John 16:33

1 John 4:4

1 John 5:4-5

John 14:27

1 John 1:9

Rom 8:31

Rom 8:34

Heb 13:5

My calling is FAR bigger than me

The demands of my calling are FAR greater than my abilities

I need help...the Helper/Comforter

How about you, in your calling/ministry?

- Husband/wife
- Parent
- Son/daughter
- Brother/sister
- Employee/employer
- Friend

With, quite literally, God's help, we can face today and tomorrow because we are

- "in Christ"
- more than conquerors

So, come with me and follow Jesus...resting in His finished work and letting the fruit of His life blossom in our lives

Gal 5:22-23 the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance

Realize/remember, we are showered with God's love and grace and joy and peace

Eph 2:7 in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in *his* kindness toward us through Christ Jesus

And share the Love and joy and peace and grace of God and the fruit of the Spirit!

Is 55:12 go out with joy, and be led forth with peace

### **3. Unbeliever:**

Has the world loved you like you as you yearn to be loved?

Has the world lied to you and abused you?

Has the world given you hope...or peace...or joy?

Jesus Christ has done for you and wants to give to you things no other "religious leader" ever did or ever can

- forgiveness of sin – grace
- reconciliation with our Creator
- salvation, eternal life
- the Words of God and the Spirit if God to teach and guide us in life

Can Mo?

Can Ghandi?

Can Confusius?

Can the Pope?

Can Joseph Smith?

Can the WatchTower?

Eccl 4:1 So I returned, and considered all the oppressions that are done under the sun: and behold the tears of *such as were* oppressed, and they had no comforter; and on the side of their oppressors *there was* power; but they had no comforter.

Come to Jesus – He has all power and offers all comfort to the oppressed

Believe God the Father sent Him

Believe He died for your sins so that you might be reconciled unto the loving Father

Believe He rose again on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day to conquer death

Believe the Father wants you to be in His presence

Believe the Father wants to give you life, hope, peace, joy, contentment



Ask Jesus and the Father to come into your life

He will give you comfort!

He will give you peace and joy and a love you have never known!

Do it now.