



Sermon Title: "Our Great High Priest Prays" (Part 2)

Scripture: John 17:9-19

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Sunday, July 29, 2018

INTRODUCTION

Note: Jesus prays about the disciples' unity, protection, sanctification, and future mission.

I. VERSES 1-5: JESUS PRAYS FOR HIMSELF

II. VERSES 6-19: JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS IMMEDIATE DISCIPLES

A. Confidently Trust Jesus to be the Protector, Guardian, and Keeper of Your Soul.

Note: The word translated as "kept" is the Greek word "tereo" and it means "to keep", "to guard", to "observe". It is used elsewhere by John to speak of "reserving" or "separating" something out for a special purpose. It is used to describe giving close, special attention to something or someone.

Note: The word translated as "guarded" is the Greek word "phyllasso" and it, like "tereo", means "to guard", "to keep", "to observe", but it seems to be a stronger, more intense, word. It speaks of aggressively and tenaciously watching over someone or something.

John 6:37-40 -

Two Possible Objections...

Objection #1 - What about Judas? Did he "get away"? Did Jesus "lose" him?

John 13:18; Psalm 41:9; Acts 1:20; Psalm 69:25; Psalm 109:8 -

Objection #2 - What about verse 13? Could Jesus' disciples be lost when He leaves earth?

Answer 1: In verse 11 Jesus asks the Father to "keep/protect/guard" His followers.

John 17:11 -

Answer 2: It's true that Jesus ascended into Heaven but He never stopped praying for us.

Romans 8:34 -

Answer 3: We are sealed by the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is given as a guarantee of our salvation.

Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Peter 1:3-5 -

B. Joyfully Trust the Spirit of God, Using the Word of God, to Sanctify You.

Verse 17: “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”

1) The Request Itself

Question: What does Jesus mean by “sanctify”?

Note: To be “sanctified” is to be “set apart” or dedicated unto God in a special way and for a special purpose, and that special purpose, in this context, is Christ-likeness.

Leviticus 19:2; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; Hebrews 12:10 -

Question: How is this to be achieved? What is the instrument used to accomplish this sanctification?

Psalm 19:7-9 - “The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.”

Question: OF WHOM does Jesus make this request??? To whom is Jesus praying???

Note: Verse 17 is a request to God the Father; NOT a command to His disciples.

2) The Reason for the Request

Why does Jesus make this request??? Why pray for our sanctification???

3) The Basis for the Request

Take Home Questions for Further Study & Reflection & Application...

1. What kinds of things should we pray for when we don't know what to pray?
2. In what way(s) did Jesus “keep” and “guard” His disciples?
3. Does the existence of Judas show that Jesus failed to “keep” and “protect” His disciples?
4. What is “sanctification”? What does it mean to be “sanctified”?
5. How does one grow and make progress in sanctification? How have you experienced this?
6. What mission does Jesus have in mind for His disciples? How is this accomplished today?
7. Why can Jesus pray so confidently and boldly regarding our sanctification? (Hint: Verse 19)