



Hear the Heart of God, Jesus on Your Behalf

By Ken Terry on April 12, 2024

TODAY'S READING: John 17

Our reading begins with, after Jesus had spoken these words. It is imperative that we understand what words were spoken; *"Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world"* (John 16:32-33, NKJV).

Jesus is preparing His disciples for His impending crucifixion, death, resurrection, and heavenly reward. At this time Jesus lifted His eyes towards Heaven and prayed His final earthly prayer to His Father. It begins this way; *"as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him"* (John 17:2, NKJV).

Jesus, the giver, and sustainer of life has the authority by His heavenly Father to give eternal life! It's important to note what Jesus means by Eternal Life? *"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent"* (John 17:3, NKJV).

Yes, eternal life, in its practical sense means living for all eternity. However, in this concept, Jesus denotes that knowing God and Him, the Son of God is not just intellectual—it is also relational. This entails having an intimate relationship with the Triune God! In the first part of His prayer Jesus prays for the disciples. He affirms who they were and what they had received; *"For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me"* (John 17:8, NKJV).

This is the beautiful revelation of Christ ministry on the earth and all that He accomplished through His disciples. Now it's time for the Master to go back to His Father, which art in Heaven. Now Jesus prays for all those who would follow. Please hear the heart of Jesus; *"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*

"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of

the world. O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them" (John 17:20-26 NKJV).

Please mediate on these words of love from the Master today. Take the time to receive the love that He has for you and the Father has for you. This love will be extended to all followers who will believe on the name of Jesus because eternal life is the knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ! The Son of the eternal God, sent by God to save and redeem mankind.

PRAYER: Our Father in the heavens, we thank you for Jesus! We thank You for Your Son who made us one in Him. We do not take that lightly, Father. We pray that You manifest Your Holy Spirit in us to empower us to live as Christ! Please help us, Father, to magnify His name in all we say and all that we do. Help us, Father, to prove ourselves worthy of Your great love for us and care for us. We praise You in the precious name of Christ Jesus, our Lord, amen.

TOMORROW'S READING: Weekend is for catch-up and review.

TOMORROW'S READING: Judges 14

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