

John 17:20-26 – Jesus Prays For Us!!

4/29/17 Sat Morn Prayer – Phil Twente

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross – Fanny J. Crosby, William H. Doane

Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain, free to all, a healing stream, flows from Calvary's mountain.

Refrain: In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever, till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.

Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever, till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river. (Refrain – 2X)

Context/Biblical Background – This prayer is the longest and most complete prayer of Jesus in the Bible. In *Hebrews 7:25* we are told “***Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them***”. This means that Jesus is praying for you and for me even right now! Do you ever wonder what He might be praying as He prays for you? Here we have an insight really into the “holy of holies” into Jesus’ heart as He prays for us!

JESUS PRAYS FOR US!:

JESUS SAVES US! *Joh 17:2 as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that **He should give eternal life** to as many as You have given Him.*

JESUS KEEPS US! *Joh 17:11 Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, **keep through Your name** those whom You have given Me, that they may be one....*

*Joh 17:12 While I was with them in the world, **I kept them** in Your name. Those whom **You gave Me I have kept**; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.*

*Joh 17:15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but **that You should keep them from the evil one.***

JESUS SANCTIFIES US! *Joh 17:17 **Sanctify** them by Your truth. Your word is truth.*

*Joh 17:19 And for their sakes **I sanctify Myself**, that they also may be **sanctified by the truth.***

VERSES 20-26 JESUS PRAYS FOR THE FUTURE BELIEVERS – FOR YOU, FOR ME!

John 17:20-26 *"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; [21] 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. [22] And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: [23] 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. [24] "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. [25] O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. [26] 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."*

Joh 17:20 "I do not pray for these alone (not just the eleven), but also for those who will believe in Me through their word (through the apostles’ witness – His chosen messengers; - you and me!

Now He begins to pray for us, who believe! What does He pray for? - Looking at least 2000 years into the history of the church!

Joh 17:21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You;

FIRST, *that they all may be one* – for the unity of the body of Christ, one with one another:

- To the degree as the Father and the Son are one, by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To grow in the appreciation of the diversity of the body of Christ! Not to emphasize the differences. No one church can happen. All are different by makeup. Observers must conclude that only God can cause that complete togetherness.

- A desire to be one in order that when one looks at the diversity in Christ and sees that its all held together, they see something supernatural.
- The unity is a witness to the world that He is all He says He is!

that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. Joh 17:22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: [23] 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,

SECOND, *“that the world may know that You have sent Me”, and have loved them as You have loved Me. - Not only a witness, but when the world sees the blessings that the Lord pours out on that kind of unity of a most diverse body, the world may see the depth of the love God has for His Body.*

Joh 17:24 *"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am.*
He now prays for the unity that gives His desire that His Body will be with Him where He is. He longs for us to be with Him. In addition to the unity is how He longs for the day when He will share that glory with you!

that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. Joh 17:25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. Joh 17:26 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."

SUMMARY OF HIS PRAYER:

- For their unity!
- For the day that we'll be in heaven with Him! For their presence with Him. How He longs for the day when He'll share His glory with you!
- Known for love – For love to be seen in our lives. That love in us, *that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."* How can that be in us? Through His death, His burial, His resurrection. The Holy Spirit now indwelling in us, His love dwelling in us by the Holy spirit.

This prayer is a revelation of what is on Jesus' heart:

- That we'll live for God's glory.
- To have the assurance not only saving us, but keeping us – *Jude v.24*
- That we would live a sanctified life.
- That we would continue to serve the Lord and not to lose sight that the work is not done.
- His concern for the unity of the Body of Christ.
- That the love of Jesus would be in us and mark our lives.

Pray Today For:

Our Church, Nationally/locally; Our Nation: Our leaders; Police officers/military. Supreme Ct. Justices: John Roberts, Jr., Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas, Ruth Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Samuel Alito, Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Neil Gorsuch; President & V.P.: Donald & Melania Trump; Mike & Karen Pence. Sec. of State – Rex Tillerson; Energy – Rick Perry; Interior – Ryan Zinke; Defense – James Mattis; Treasury – Steven Mnuchin; Attorney General – Jeff Sessions; HUD – Ben Carson; Commerce – Wilbur Ross; Health & Human Services – Tom Price; Education – Betsy DeVos; Trans. – Elaine Chou; U.N Ambassador – Nikki Haley; Labor – Alexander Acosta; Homeland Security – Gen. John Kelly; EPA – Scott Pruitt; Budget – Mick Mulvaney; SBA – Linda McMahon; Cabinet Level Officials: – Reince Priebus; Nat'l Security Advisor – H. R. McMaster; White House Council – Donald McGahn; Counselor to Pres. – Kellyanne Conway; Press Sec. Sean Spicer; Agriculture –Sonny Perdue; Vet. Affairs – Donald Shulkin; C.I.A. Director – Mike Pompeo; Amb. to Israel – David Friedman; Nat Econ Council Dir. – Gary Cohn; Nat. Intell. – Dan Coats; US Trade Rep. – Robert Lighthizer; Sr. Adv. to Pres. – Jared Kushner; Homeland Sec. Adv. – Thomas Bossert; Spec. Adv. Reg. Reform – Carl Icahn; Dir. Trade Policy – Peter Navarro; Cyber Security – Rudy Giuliani

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