

**“Who is Jesus?”: Intercessor – Pt.2**  
**John 17:12-19**

**Introduction:**

- Communion reminds us of the atoning work of Christ on behalf of those who believe. In it (atonement), His perfect righteousness satisfies God’s righteous requirements so that we are made righteous and sanctified for His sake.
- **Hebrews 13:12-16**, “**12** So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. **13** Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. **14** For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. **15** Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. **16** Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”
- **Hebrews 10:14**, “For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.”
- **READ 17:1-19** – verse 11

**Interceding for Our Protection (v.12)**

- A) Preservation (God’s side)
  - a. Kept in God’s name
    - i. By His authority
    - ii. By His character (stronger)
  - b. Guarded
    - i. In the truth of Christ
    - ii. Preserving nature of Truth
    - iii. Prevailing nature of Truth
      - 1. Judas fulfillment of scripture in his betrayal
      - 2. **UBC Statement of Faith** (taken from 2000 BF&M), “God, from eternity, decrees or permits all things that come to pass and perpetuates, upholds, directs and governs all creatures and all events through His providence, yet He is not the author or approver of sin. He does not in any way destroy the free will and responsibility of

*any who will stand before God in judgment.”*

- B) Perseverance (Man’s side)
  - a. Keeping for Christ
  - b. Kept by His design
  - c. Kept for Unity

**Interceding for Our Joy (vv.13-16)**

- A) Joy in Christ (**v.13a**)
  - a. His glory (returning to the Father)
  - b. His Word in the World (for the Disciples’ good)
- B) Christ’s Joy Fulfilled in Us (**v.13b**)
  - a. Substitutionary work
  - b. Object of satisfaction
- C) Joy through His Word (**v.14**)
  - a. This is the prayed for result of being kept by God
  - b. Since we are kept by God through His Word, then it is no wonder that when we are a joy-less people, we are simultaneously a Word-less people (this goes for individuals and churches)
- D) Sustained Joy by His Word (**vv.15-16**)
  - a. Joy sustained though Hated by the World (the Word is why the world hates Christ and His own)
  - b. Joy sustained by right understanding of citizenship
  - c. Joy sustained through spiritual warfare
    - i. He does not take us out of the battle
    - ii. Flies in the face of health/wealth teaching
    - iii. Calvin notes that Christ does not desire for us to become “effeminate or slothful” are his words
      - 1. “Effeminate” is an interesting choice
      - 2. First definition is referring to a man displaying the characteristics of a woman
      - 3. The second definition is being “weak through overrefinement or an absence of vigorous qualities”

- 4. To stay focused there must be resistance
- d. Joy sustained by association with Christ
  - i. Positional Truth
  - ii. Behavioral Truth

### Interceding for Our Sanctification (vv.17-19)

- A) Sanctify (to make [progressively] holy...for a purpose)
  - a. Hagios – aorist/act./imper. – command
  - b. A view of legalism (**C.J. Mahaney**)
- B) Sanctify in Truth (word is truth)
  - a. The only means for sanctification is the Word of God
  - b. When we lack growth, we too often find our renewal in “newer” places, like the next new study or book
  - c. **2 Timothy 3:16-17** (this is why this text is core to our LifeGroup’s application discussion) – **teaching, reproof, correction, training in righteousness**
  - d. False religions must utilize a 2<sup>nd</sup> source (JW – NWT and “What does the Bible really teach?” / Mormons – Book of Mormon / Even Catholics have historically elevated their dogma to near-biblical levels) – while those are “formal” examples, many evangelicals use devotions or authors that they treat as almost equal with biblical weight (either through time or assumption)
- C) Sanctified while being Sent (**v.18**)
  - a. **Hebrews 12:1-2**, *“1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”*
  - b. As you remain in the world to become more like Him, part of being like Him is performing His mission
  - c. The disciples were set apart for this task and, ultimately, so are we (**v.20**)

- D) Grounds of Sanctification (**v.19**)

- a. The Holiness of Christ (hagios – pres./act./ind. – fact)
- b. **1 Cor.1:28-30**, *“28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. 30 And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”*
- c. **1 Peter 1:13-16**, *“13 Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, 15 but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*

### Conclusion

- A) Is there evidence in your life of Christ’s prayer being answered in you? Are you being sanctified? Are you increasingly yielding to His authority and the authority of His Word?
- B) What if there’s no evidence (whether a church-attender or not)? GOD-MAN-CHRIST-RESPONSE
  - a. Where is your ultimate satisfaction & joy?
  - b. Do you accept or reject God’s Word?
  - c. Would you consider yourself part of the world or chosen out of the world (although still in it)?

### BENEDICTION

*23 Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**