

“Who is Jesus?”: Intercessor – Pt.1
John 17:6-11

6 “I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. **7** Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. **8** For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. **9** I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. **10** All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. **11** And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

Introduction:

- Chapter 17 concludes a section of John’s gospel (13-17) that focused on the teaching of Christ to His disciples through various kinds of instruction, but consistently pointing to the cross.
- So, chapter 17 is something of a summary of John’s gospel so far as well as the prelude to the passion of Christ – the last hours leading to the cross.
- **READ 17:1-11** – vv.6-11 focuses on the foundation of this prayer for the disciples

Interceding with Manifest Purpose (vv.6-8)

A) To Make God Clear (v.6a)

- a. Name
 - i. **Isa.52:6**, “Therefore my people shall know my name. Therefore in that day they shall know that it is I who speak; here am I.”
 - ii. **John 1:18**, “No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.”
- b. Authority
- c. Knowing (v.3)

B) To Make God Clear to His Own (vv.6b-8)

- a. God’s Possession...Christ’s Gifts (v.6b)
 - i. **John 15:19**, “If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”
 - ii. **John 6:39**, “And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day.”
 - iii. **John 10:27-30**, “**27** My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. **28** I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. **29** My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. **30** I and the Father are one.”
 - iv. Some try to limit this statement to the disciples, but the context is for all the disciples of Christ past, present and future (v.20).
 - v. Those who keep the Word
- b. Recognize who is “I AM” (vv.7-8)
 - i. “now they know”, lit. “they recognize who is I AM”
 - ii. Fruit of Knowing: Kept Word
 1. **John 8:51-52**, “**51** Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” **52** The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’”
 2. **John 14:23**, “Jesus answered him, ‘If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.’”
 - iii. Divinity of Christ
 - iv. Fellowship
 - v. Through words (logos)
 - vi. Belief unto trust
 1. They were not mature at this point
 2. They were wholly committed to who He was, giving evidence of trust

- c. **John 20:30-31**, “**30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

Interceding with Manifest Petition (vv.9-11)

- A) For the Sheep Only (**vv.9-10**)
- a. Not the world
 - i. General love (**John 3:16**)
 - ii. Special love (**John 13:1**, “Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.”)
 - iii. Illus. – Adopted children (love and compassion for all, but you choose one and have a particular love for that one)
 - b. Gifts from God to Christ
 - i. Not merit...gracious choice
 - ii. Gifts for Christ to make them His own
 - c. Possession of God
 - d. Christ glorified in them
 - i. As his possession, He is glorified in His own and will keep them forever so that He is forever glorified in them
 1. Mutual possession
 2. EACH ONE...ALL OF US
 3. Spurgeon quotes an ancient proverb, “Love me, love my dog” (loved by Christ because the Father loves His own and Christ loves the Father)
 4. Think about this... BLESSING OF GRACE!
 - ii. D.A. Carson in the PNTC, “However wide is the love of God (3:16), however salvific the stance of Jesus toward the world (12:47), there is a peculiar relationship of love, intimacy, disclosure, obedience, faith, dependence, joy, peace, eschatological blessing and fruitfulness that binds the disciples together and with the Godhead.”

- B) For the Sheep to Reflect His Glory (**v.11**)
- a. In the World
 - b. Protection
 - i. Eternal security
 - ii. By His authority
 - c. Unto Unity
 - i. Fellowship with the Divine
 - ii. Corporate evangelism (**John 13:35**, “By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”)

Conclusion

- A) If you are a Christian here this morning, what does this security of the Father and the Son evoke in you?
- B) Perhaps you wonder if you are one of God’s very own. You’ll know that by your willingness to keep His Word. Do you want to follow Christ, even if it costs you everything? Do you trust Him that much? (**God – Man – Christ – Response**)