





***Jesus***


***Lesson #12 High Priestly Prayer***

***Jim Hoffman***

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- ***John 17:1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup> For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup> Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. NIV***
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# This is Eternal Life



- *“Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.”*
  - *How does this differ from John 14:6 where a singular path to God is defined through Jesus, the Way?*
  - *No conflict here – the bible is consistent, the only way to God is through God Himself.*
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# This is Eternal Life

- *Perhaps we should pause and rehearse to ourselves the power of the gospel.*
- *We were lost at the fall, but recovered at the cross, and apart from the grace of God there is no hope for us.*
- *We have no merit or rights of our own to decide how we will approach God – He alone sets those rules.*



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- ***John 17:6 "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. 7 Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. 8 For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. 9 I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. 10 All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. 11 I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name — the name you gave me — so that they may be one as we are one. 12 While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. NIV***
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# Jesus Prays For Protection

- *Jesus asks his Father to protect and keep those who had followed him, and by implication those who would later follow.*
- *If we think the protection is a physical protection we must conclude then that his prayers were not answered.*
- *If we think the protection was a spiritual protection the equation changes.*





# Jesus Prays For Protection

- *Some translations render the “protect” of verse 17:11 as “keep” and to the 21<sup>st</sup> century American mind there is a difference.*
- *The Greek word is “tereo” (tay-ra-o) means guard, watch, or detain.*
- *Sometimes things in our custody get tattered and torn while remaining in our possession.*





# Jesus Prays For Protection

- *2 Corinthians 4:9 but we know that God knows what to do; we've been spiritually terrorized, but God hasn't left our side; we've been thrown down, but we haven't broken. 10 What they did to Jesus, they do to us — trial and torture, mockery and murder; what Jesus did among them, he does in us — he lives! 11 Our lives are at constant risk for Jesus' sake, which makes Jesus' life all the more evident in us. 12 While we're going through the worst, you're getting in on the best!*







# Jesus Prays For Protection

- *We want John 17:11 to mean absolute shelter from harm in this life, but history and experience tell us otherwise.*
- *So we see an old and familiar truth again – we are God’s possession and will remain so, but there is no guaranty of an easy life.*
- *Jesus prays for us to be kept through the storms – not kept from them.*





- ***John 17:13 "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. 14 I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. 15 My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. 18 As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. 19 For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. NIV***






# In, but not of the world.

- *It is not the will of God for us to live in a cozy little Christian community apart from the world.*
- *We do need places of retreat where we can rest, but there is no way for us to fulfill the great commission without engaging the world.*
- *Each of us has our own “world” where we get to live out our faith in a way that declares God as the center of our lives.*





# In, but not of the world.

- *Sometimes Jesus aggressively engaged the world by preaching to the masses and by confronting the religious establishment.*
  - *Sometimes the world engaged Him because of how he went about His father's work.*
  - *I suspect the same is true for us – sometimes we must go on the offensive and sometimes we just need to engage what comes our way.*
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←—————→  
**Lineman sometimes go and  
aggressively attack**



← **Lineman sometimes just look to  
steer what comes their way.** →





## In, but not of the world.


- *This is one of our most common experiences – living in the world while trying to remain unencumbered by it.*
- *These things are true – living in the world is difficult, often painful, and sometimes dangerous, but it is the will of God for us.*
- *Find places of rest – dare I also say help to create places of rest for others.*







# **“Sanctify them by your truth”**

- ***It is the word of God that is instrumental in our progressive sanctification.***
  - ***Sanctify means to set apart for holy purposes – when we are born again we are set apart for God’s purposes. We were “bought with a price and are no longer our own”.***
  - ***At salvation we were sanctified in our position – next comes sanctification as a matter of practice.***
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# **“Sanctify them by your truth”**

- ***Aside from believing, we had no part in our positional sanctification. At salvation we were granted a holy state before God.***
- ***Post salvation however, we play a major role in what we might call progressive sanctification – the way we live our lives.***
- ***Jesus says here the word of God is a big deal in our progressive sanctification.***





# **“Sanctify them by your truth”**

- When we take in the truth of God’s word we assist in the process of progressive sanctification.*
- This is a bit mystical, but totally factual – when we spend time in the Word we are changed by it in ways that can be seen, felt, and measured.*
- The Bible is not just great literature, it is life giving and life changing.*





# The Big Conclusions

*If you want to be more holy, read the Word.*

*If you want purer motives, read the Word.*

*If you want to be more like Jesus, read the Word.*





- ***John 17:20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: 23 I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. 25 "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. 26 I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them." NIV***





# **“That the world may know”**

- Two times in these verses Jesus says the same thing – when His followers are unified the world will know the Father sent Him.***
- Never underestimate the role of unity among the brethren as a force for evangelism.***
- We think that disunity keeps people away from the church and it does – Jesus says unity will draw people to the church.***






# **“That the world may know”**

- Man was not made to live alone – there is something inside of us that wants to belong to something bigger than ourselves.***
- The Body of Christ is God’s community for meeting the need is us to belong, to be included, to fit in.***
- We do not always get the connection we need in the world – sadly some do not even get it in the church.***





# Unity

- ***What are the threats to unity in the church?***
    - ***1.***
    - ***2.***
    - ***3.***
    - ***4.***
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# Questions

