

John 17:2 — “Be Thankful That the Father Gave You to the Son!”

Our texts & topic tonight will take us high above the mundane moments of life to take us into the deep, wide, glorious galaxies of God’s saving purposes & love toward His people.

THESIS — The big idea tonight: **“Be thankful because the Father gave YOU to His own Son!”**

I. BE THANKFUL! THE FATHER GAVE YOU TO THE SON! **(17:2a)**

In the Ancient Near East, fathers picked the bride for the sons. You didn’t go find your own wife; the Father did it! And that’s precisely what the Father did for His Son! Every believer is a particularly selected, undeservedly elect, marvelous love-gift from the Father to the Son ... so you would worship Him & express His worth forever & ever!

John 17:2--

- ✓ You are Given to the Son ETERNALLY.
- ✓ You are Given to the Son PARTICULARLY.
- ✓ You are Given to the Son EFFECTUALLY.
- ✓ You are Given to the Son LOVINGLY.
- ✓ You are Given to the Son IRREVOCABLY.
- ✓ You are Given to the Son UNDESERVEDLY.

John 10:29 --

John 6:37, 39--

Why all this? What’s the purpose of it all?

“The Father has chosen to give to the Son a bride. For what reason? To love the Son forever; to serve the Son forever; to praise the Son forever; to glorify the Son forever....Christ is worthy of a redeemed humanity who will fill eternal heavens with praise and honor given to the Son.” (John MacArthur)

II. BE THANKFUL! THE SON GAVE YOU ETERNAL LIFE! **(17:2b)**

“There are a certain number of men given by the Father unto Christ ... that He may redeem, take charge of, and be returning for them;... Life eternal is a gift peculiar only to the elect, who are given to Christ, and is conferred only upon them, and upon all of them; for he gives 'eternal life to as many as you have given him,' and to none else. And our Christ is eminently qualified with power over all flesh to bring this about!” (George Hutcheson)

See John 17:6, 24

So then:

We belong to the *FATHER* (John 17.9b)

We belong to the *SON* (John 17.6; 6.37)

- John 10 - none can snatch us out of the Father or the Son's hands!
- Quite simply: your life is now hidden with Christ in God (Colossians 3.3)
- There can't be any greater security! You are Secure in God!

William Gadsby wrote:

“Sinners who on Jesus rest, Must eternally be blest; All Jehovah's love can give, They from Jesus shall receive.

Loved of God, to Jesus given, In the purposes of heaven; They are bought with blood divine, And they must in glory shine.

Matchless Jesus! may we be Wholly taken up with thee! And, in every deep distress, Lean upon thy truth and grace.”

All this impacts us in amazing & profound ways...

1. **Certainty of salvation.** The salvation of the elect is unmoveably sure/certain
2. **Freeness of salvation.** We don't need to accomplish anything to merit salvation nor add anything to the gift of salvation granted to us.
3. **Glory to God!** We see the security and the beginning, the continuance, and the culmination of man's salvation all bound up in God's work. We boast in God!
4. **Inexhaustibleness of love.** we see a love that is unparalleled, it exceeds all comprehension.
5. **Accomplishment of Christ!** The Lord Jesus is the full executor and accomplisher of this salvation.

“Love moved the Father and love moved the Lord Jesus. It is a pact of love between those whose love proceeds from within themselves, without there being any loveableness in the object of this love. Oh, how blessed is he who is incorporated in this covenant and, being enveloped and irradiated by this eternal love, is stirred up to love in return, exclaiming, “We love Him, because He first loved us” (1 John 4:19). (Wilhelmus a Brakel)

Bless the Lord, O My soul & forget none of His benefits! (Ps 103.2).