

3 Ways Christ Glorified the Father

John 17:4-8

=====

=

Joh 17:4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.

Joh 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Joh 17:6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.

Joh 17:7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

Joh 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

=====

=

Verses 4-8 develop (explain) the first clause of verse 4 - **I have glorified thee on the earth**

Note -

The Past tense **I have** (Only Christ could ever speak this way)

The Purpose **glorified thee** (He had a singular focus in all his life)

The Place **on the earth** (The most difficult place to glorify God)

A.W. Pink -

Christ has glorified the Father in His person (Hebrews 1:3).

He glorified Him by His miracles (Matthew 9:8, etc.).

He glorified Him by His words, constantly ascribing all praise to Him (Matthew 11:25, etc.).

But above all He had glorified Him by His holy life. (Gal 4:4)

Our Lord outlines 3 ways in which he glorified the Father on earth.

What are they? Put briefly, they are -

God's Work - God's Name - God's Word

=====

Firstly - Christ glorified the Father by doing the Work of the Father.

Joh 17:4 I have glorified thee on the earth: **I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.**

Christ alone could pray prayers that are based on his own obedience!

We must understand the Psalms in this way.

Psalm 86:2 - Preserve my soul; **for I am holy**

We must understand this of Christ and not David (Though David did write it)

Note, it is - A Finished, Given and Singular Work!!

A Finished Work - **I have finished the work**

AW Pink - **The Savior referred to His work on earth as though He had been already exalted to heaven.**

A Given Work - **the work which thou gavest**

A Singular Work - **thou gavest me to do.**

In that context, he prays in verse five -

AW Pink - The verse before us conducts us to a height which we have no means of scaling.

Joh 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Note, 4 elements to this Petition.

The Paternity of the Petition

And now, O Father

The Petition itself

glorify thou me

AW Pink - When the Savior says, "glorify thou me" He speaks as the Mediator, as "Jesus Christ" (John 17:3).

As Jesus Christ He had been humiliated; now, as Jesus Christ, He was to be glorified.

The Apostle Peter informs the people on the day of Pentecost that this had been done. (Acts 2:32,36)

The Profound nature of this Petition

glorify thou me **with thine own self**

The Primeval reality of the glory of Christ

with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

See **John 1:1-3**

Compare - Isa 42:8 I am the LORD: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images.

Secondly - Christ glorified the Father by a manifestation of the name of the Father.

Joh 17:6 **I have manifested thy name**

to render apparent - Strong

If we are to ask the question, what does it mean to manifest God's name?

AW Pink answers - **To make known the Father's name was to reveal Him, manifest His character, display His perfections.**

Consider - Joh 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

AW Pink - **So perfectly did Christ discharge this office that He could say, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father" (John 14:9).**

False religion shrouds God in mystery - True religion brings us into fellowship with God!

See **1 John 1:1-4**

Who did Christ manifest the name of the Father to?

Joh 17:6 I have manifested thy name **unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me;** and they have kept thy word.

Compare - **Matthew 11:25-27**

What was the benefits of such a manifestation?

Two are mentioned -

Keeping and Knowing!

Joh 17:6 and they have kept thy word.

Joh 17:7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.

But had they kept God's Word?

They failed many times. They would be scattered in a few hours.

Consider Hebrews 11.

AW Pink -

They had kept the Father's word, but O how imperfectly. But love notices not their defects, dwelling only upon their faith, submission and obedience!

Satan is an accuser, and even speaks evil of believers; but Christ, our Advocate, takes our part, and ever speaks well of us.

This is the highest commendation Christ could give His people: "They have kept thy word."

On verse 7, JC Ryle notes,

It is evident that the Lord sees far more in His believing people than they see in themselves, or than others see in them.

Thirdly - Christ glorified the Father by giving the Words of God to his disciples

Joh 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

AW Pink -

If our faith is to be strengthened, deepened and increased, it can only be by our diligent attention to, prayerful meditation upon, and personal appropriation of the words of God!

What was the benefit of this?

It was threefold -

Acceptance - Assurance - Affirmation

and they have received them,

and have known surely that I came out from thee,

and they have believed that thou didst send me.

AW Pink -

the Lord Jesus admits no other faith than that which is based upon an intelligent acquaintance with His person — cf. Romans 10:13.

May the Lord bless His Word to our souls.

Amen.