

Series: John

Title: Father, the Hour is Come

Text: John 17: 1-5

Date: Sept 4, 2022

Place: SGBC, New Jersey

John 17 is our Lord's prayer. This is the prayer of our great High Priest. This is the intercession of the Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father for his people.

John 17: 1: These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. 3: And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 4: I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5: And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

John 17: 1: These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come;

This is the hour for which the world was made. This is the hour to which all time looked and the hour to which we look back unto. This is the hour that was set by God from eternity. Now the hour is come.

The Lord Jesus looked up. He lifted up his eyes to heaven and spake. The publican in the Lord's parable would not so much as lift up his eyes to heaven. He was a sinner. The Lord Jesus lifted his eyes to heaven. He is the sinless GodMan, Mediator.

What did he ask? This is his intercession as our great High Priest. This is what he asked that night. This gives us some understanding of his intercession for his people right now at God's right hand.

GLORIFY THY SON

John 17: 1: These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

The Lord Jesus asked the Father to glorify him—"glorify thy Son." As the Son of God, he did not need God to glorify him. But he is praying as our Mediator, as the Man who represented his people. He asked the Father to glorify him. Why? That he might glorify the Father—"that Thy Son also may glorify Thee." (Jn 17: 1) Do you think God the Father will hear his Son? Do you think God the Father will hear Christ Jesus, the Son of God. He called himself "thy Son..."

He asked the Father to glorify him that he might glorify the Father. The very reason Christ came into this world—the reason he went to the cross—was that he might be glorified and thereby glorify God his Father. In Christ's intercession as the Mediator of his people, he asks the Father to glorify him that he might glorify the Father. Do you think God the Father will give him his request? You can be certain he will.

Here is why he asked the Father to glorify him. This is how he glorified the Father, "*As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*" God the Father has given the Son, Christ Jesus, all authority, dominion, and power over all flesh—"as thou hast given him power over all flesh."

John 3: 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

Matthew 28:18: And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

If you knew someone has all power over all men and you had a need, would you go to him? God the Father has given the GodMan, Mediator, all power over all flesh. Will you go to him?

Why did God the Father give him all power over all flesh. He said, “...*that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*” God the Father gave Christ a people. Christ declares that at least 6 times in this prayer. (See verses 6, 9, 12, 24.) God the Father elected a people unto salvation and gave them to Christ to save—“*that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*”

God is sovereign. Men may not object that God can do what he will in creation. But natural man despises God being God in salvation. But the true God chose whom he would and passed by whom he would.

Romans 9: 15: For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

The wages of sin is death. All who perish earn death. But eternal life is the gift of God. And it is the gift Christ gives. God the Father gave Christ Jesus his Son this authority and glory. Eternal life is not earned, it is a gift. God the Father gave Christ the glory to give eternal life to as many as the Father gave to him. We are the sinner. We died by Adam’s one transgression. So we are at the mercy of God. We must come to Christ asking mercy. He gives eternal life.

WHAT IS ETERNAL LIFE?

John 17: 3: And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

Eternal life is knowing God the Father and his Son, Christ Jesus—“*this is life eternal, that they might know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.*” A sinner only knows God the Father when we know the Lord Jesus Christ. This eternal life is given by Christ when he gives us the knowledge of him.

Matthew 11:27: All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and *he* to whomsoever the Son will reveal *him*.

John 14:6: Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. 7: If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. 8: Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. 9: Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father?

The true Lord Jesus is Lord. He is not the helpless Jesus this world preaches. We are at his mercy. Christ has power over all flesh. He gives eternal life to as many as the Father has given him. He reveals God the Father making us know him. Every true believer confesses this is so. This is what every true believer confesses.

1 John 5:20: And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.

CHRIST FINISHED THE WORK

John 17: 4: I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5: And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.

Will God the Father give his Son what he asks for? Why? Christ finished the work the Father gave him to do. When did God give Christ this work to do? In eternity, before the world was made. This is the glory he had with the Father before the world was. God gave his Son the glory of redeeming the people the Father gave to him.

Why did God the Father give his Son this work to do? No one else could do it. God ordained Adam the head over the whole human race. But we all died in sins and became guilty in Adam by his disobedience to

God. But God ordained Adam as a type of Christ. Before the world was made, God made Christ his Son to be the Head of his people. It is by Christ's obedience that the Lord Jesus has made his people the righteousness of God in him. He gave Christ this glory that God might get all the glory in the salvation of his people.

Did Christ do the work? He said, "*I finished the work thou gavest me to do!*" Christ Jesus, the Son of God, is the only man who ever loved God, and obeyed God, and honored the eternal holy God all the days of His life, with no sin. In His life and by his death, our Savior glorified God's law, God's will, God's justice, God's grace, God's longsuffering, God's love. He manifest God!

God gave Christ the glory of manifesting God's righteousness—how that God is both just and the Justifier, a Just God and a Savior (Rom 3:24-26). Christ Jesus made his people the righteousness of God in him. He accomplished eternal redemption from the curse of the law for his people. He alone shall give eternal life to all that the Father gave to Him and shall not lose one. In Christ God is the Savior. He is a just God and a Savior!

Will God give Christ what he asks of his Father? God would have to cease being holy and just to condemn one who he gave to Christ because God already condemned them in Christ our Substitute. It is upon the foundation of Christ's finished work that our Savior prays, "*I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*"

Remember how Pharaoh exalted Joseph and gave him all power over the storehouses. If anyone wanted bread, life, they had to go to Joseph and bow to him. So God our Father has given his Son power over all flesh. It is Christ who gives the knowledge of God the Father. It is Christ who gives eternal life. He is that eternal Life!

The love of God is not a frustrated love. He loved his people in Christ. He chose his people in Christ. He gave his people to Christ. Christ redeemed his people. Christ has power over all flesh to give eternal life to as many as the Father has given him by irresistible regeneration. Christ shall lose none.

Well, how do I know if I am one God the Father gave to his Son. His people come to Christ believing on Christ. His redeemed are made willing to come to Christ and cast all our care on Christ to save us. Believe on Christ. He promises,

John 6: 37: All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. 38: For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. 39: And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

Amen!