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The Real Lord's Prayer – Part 3

Introduction to Series

Series: Near to the Heart of God

Rev. Andrew Hawkins, Ph.D.
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I. The Real Lord's Prayer

A. Our Lord's prayer

II. The Gospel from God's Perspective

A. **John 17:1–5** (ESV) —

1. 1 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,
2. 2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.
3. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
4. 4 I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.
5. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

B. **John 17:6–19** (ESV) —

1. 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.
2. 7 Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.
6. 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.
7. 12 While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

8. 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
9. 14 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
10. 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.
11. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
12. 17 Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.
13. 18 As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.
14. 19 And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

C. Glimpse of the gospel from God's perspective

1. Primacy of glory
 - a. Jesus had glory with Father before incarnation
 - b. Jesus set glory aside in incarnation
 - c. Jesus has glorified Father in earthly ministry
 - d. Jesus asks Father to glorify Him in the cross
2. Father gives Jesus people out of world
3. Father gives Jesus authority to save them
4. Jesus gives eternal life to those given
5. Eternal life is to know Father and Son
6. Jesus manifests God's glory to them
7. Jesus gives them God's Word
8. They receive it, understand its source, that Jesus is from God the Father
9. Jesus has kept them, is leaving them
10. Jesus asks the Father to keep them in His name, keep them from the evil one
11. The way that happens is called sanctification
12. The way sanctification happens is by the word
13. Jesus provide the example of Himself

III. **The Object of the Prayer**

- A. For whom does Jesus pray?
- B. **John 17.1-5 – Jesus prays for Himself**
 1. "... glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you..."
 2. "... glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed."
- C. **John 17.6-26 – Jesus prays for others:** those whom God has given Him
 1. Both those who are given immediately (John 17.6-19)
 2. And those who will believe through their message (John 17.20-26)
 3. John 17:6 (ESV) — 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."
 4. John 17:9 (ESV) — 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.

5. John 17:11 (ESV) — 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.
 6. John 17:15 (ESV) — 15 I do not ask that you take them out of the world, **but that you keep them from the evil one.**
 7. John 17:17 (ESV) — 17 **Sanctify them in the truth**; your word is truth.
- D. Key question
1. **Who are these people?**
 2. What does Jesus want for them?

IV. **The Structure of the Prayer** (Martyn Lloyd-Jones)

- A. **John 17.1-5 – Saved from the World**
1. John 17:2–3 (ESV) — 2 since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. 3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
- B. **John 17.6-19 – Safe In the World**
1. John 17:11 (ESV) — 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.
- C. **John 17.20-26 – Unified For the World**

V. **John 17:20** (ESV) —

- A. 20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word...
1. Some suggest 3 separate prayers
 2. NIV subtitles suggest
 - a. Jesus Prays for Himself
 - b. Jesus Prays for His disciples
 - c. Jesus Prays for All Believers
 3. Not so – applies entire prayer to both present and future believers
 - a. Future believers – believe through Word of apostles
 - (1) “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me...”
 4. And how will these future believers believe in Jesus?
 - a. “... through their word”
 - b. No new revelation
 - c. No chance Jesus would reveal Himself to Joseph Smith in 19th Century
 - d. Word of apostles is central
 5. Only thing we can do – preach the word of the apostles
 6. What was the word of the apostles?
 - a. Their Bible – the Hebrew Bible, the OT
 - b. Eyewitness testimonies of the life and ministry of Jesus

- c. Instructional writings – gospels and epistles that were sourced in the apostles – the NT
- d. The NT was either written by the apostles, or were sanctioned by the apostles
- 7. After the NT – no new revelation
- 8. OT and NT is sufficient for every aspect of faith

VI. The First Request

- A. **John 17:21** (ESV) — 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.
- B. **Request – Unity**
 - 1. Repetition of prior request
 - 2. **John 17:11** (ESV) — 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.**
 - 3. Nature of unity
 - a. Image used is unity of Father and Son
 - b. No closer relationship
 - c. Three in person, one in essence
 - d. Never conflict or disagreement
 - 4. Different kinds of Christian unity
 - a. Never discuss hard issues
 - b. Agree to disagree
 - c. Probably not these
 - 5. Means of establishing unity
 - a. “That they also may be in us”
 - b. True Christian unity is established by Christians conforming to Christ
 - 6. Ephesians 4:1–6 (ESV) — 1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with **all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love**, 3 **eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
- C. **The Purpose**
 - 1. Testimony to world
 - a. “... so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”
 - 2. Evangelism based on unity of body of Christ
 - a. How many evangelism training seminars teach that?
 - 3. **John 13:34–35** (ESV) — 34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one

another. 35 **By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.**”

4. Unity in body communicates that you are disciple, and that Jesus is from God
 - a. Result – you glorify God

D. **The Means**

1. **John 17:22** (ESV) — 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one...
2. God has given us glory!
 - a. Why? So we can be one
 - b. So we can manifest His glory
3. Change from the OT – Moses asks God to show him His glory
 - a. No! Cannot see my glory and live
 - b. But now, John 1:14 (ESV) — 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
 - c. And we even get to participate in His glory
 - d. 2 Peter 1:3–4 (ESV) — 3 His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.
4. Glory – the visible manifestation of the nature and character of God
 - a. True godliness; true Christlikeness
 - b. The Spirit of Christ dwelling in us enables us to represent the glory of God to a watching world
 - c. So that the world will know we are His disciples
 - d. And that the world will know Jesus came from God

E. **John 17:23** (ESV) — 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

1. Another repetition of prayer for unity – 3rd time
 - a. Repetition of result – world would know Jesus came from the Father
 - b. Importance of repetition for Jew
2. Not only that Jesus came from God
 - a. Also that world would know God loved His chosen just as He loved His Son

VII. **The Second Request**

- A. **John 17:24** (ESV) — 24 Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

- B. Next request – be with Jesus where He is (will shortly be) – in heaven
 - 1. Great future hope of believer
 - a. Left in world for now – temporarily
 - b. Ultimately we will be with Him
 - 2. Why? – behold His glory
 - a. His original glory (v 5)
 - b. **John 17:5** (ESV) — 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.
 - c. Sense in which we have been given His glory for now, yet later we will experience it in its fullness

VIII. **Crowning conclusion**

- A. **John 17:25–26** (ESV) — 25 O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”
 - 1. All key players mentioned
 - a. Father (righteous)
 - b. World – at enmity with Father
 - c. Son – knows Father, sent by Him
 - d. “These” chosen out of world – known Son came from Father
 - 2. Primary activities are all mentioned
 - a. Son made God’s name known, will continue to make it known
 - b. Why? – Love that Father had for Son may be in the chosen
 - c. Why else? – The Son may be in the chosen
 - 3. Colossians 1:27 (ESV) — 27 To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
 - a. Christ in you – the hope of glory!

IX. Conclusion

- A. Saved out of the world
- B. Kept safe in the world
- C. Called to be unified for the world
- D. Jesus intends that we would have this response
 - 1. **John 17:13** (ESV) — 13 But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves.
 - 2. “Full measure of my joy within them”
- E. What a prayer!