

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet

John 13:1-20

When Was the Passover Meal Celebrated?

John 13:1

- Matthew, Mark and Luke speak the Last Supper as the Passover meal. *Luke 22*
- John commonly refers to the Passover as referring to the 7 day Passover Festival. *John 2:2, 2:23, 4:45, 7:2, 7-37, 11:56, 13:1,13:29*
- Instructions on the Passover in the Mosaic Law. *Exodus 12:1-20*
- “The Jewish custom at the time of Jesus (and to-day still) was that families on the night before the Passover, i.e. in the evening following the 13th Nisan (the month which usually commences during the second half of March), searched through their houses thoroughly and collected every bit of leaven or leavened cake to burn it on the following day. Towards noon on the following day (the 14th Nisan) there must be no more leaven in the houses and the unleavened loaves must be made ready for the Passover. Therefore Luke rightly calls this day the “day of unleavened bread”. Between about 2.30 p.m. until about 6 p.m. on that day (14th Nisan) the paschal lambs had to be slaughtered and made ready for the Passover, which commenced a little after sunset (according to Jewish chronology it was thus, after sunset, the beginning of the 15th Nisan, the first day of the seven days’ “festival of the unleavened bread”, sometimes also merely called “Passover”). Thus it was on a Thursday (cf. xxiii. 54), the 14th Nisan (probably 5th April, A.D. 30), that the Saviour the day before His crucifixion sent Peter and John to make the necessary preparations so that He and His disciples might hold the paschal repast that evening.

(The Gospel of Luke, by Norval Geldenhuys, The New International Commentary on the New Testament, published by Eerdmans, 1951, page 551.)

Jesus’ Love for His Own

John 13:1b

- In this context Jesus is referring to a saving love that he gives to all those for whom he died. *Romans 9:13, Matthew 7:21-23, Ephesians 1:3-6*
- God does love everyone in a limited temporary sense. *Matthew 5:43-48, Acts 14:16-17*

Satan and Judas

John 13:2

- Satan is a tool that God uses to fulfill his plan. *Ephesians 1:11*
- Satan can only do what God allows him to do. *Job 1:9-10*
- Satan could put evil thoughts into Judas’ mind.

The Man Jesus and God

John 13:3

Jesus is both God and man at the same time. He is also the 2nd person of the Trinity. In this context he is referring to his role as the Son of God.

The Footwashing

John 13:4-20

- Footwashing is a picture of our responsibility as a believer. *John 13:34-35, 1 John 4:7-12*
- Peter was a believer who only needed to address his current sin, which is why he only needed to have his feet washed by Jesus. *John 15:3, 1 John 1:9*

- Footwashing is not an ordinance like Baptism or the Lord's Supper for it is not addressed as such in the rest of the New Testament. *1 Timothy 5:10*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus Reveals the Traitor

John 13:21-30

Fulfilled Prophecy

John 13:18-19

- The betrayal of Judas is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy. *Psalm 41:9*
- David functions as a type or picture of Jesus, the King of Kings. All of *Psalm 41* does not speak of Jesus. Only the portion that is quoted in the New Testament speaks of Jesus.
- *Psalm 16:8-11* speaks of the resurrection of Jesus and this is quoted as being so in *Acts 2:25-28*. Only a portion of *Psalm 16* refers to the resurrection of Jesus.
- *Psalm 45:6-7* as quoted in *Hebrews 1:8-9* refers to Jesus. The whole Psalm is not about Jesus.

The Humanity of Jesus

John 13:21

- Jesus is fully God and fully man without sin. *John 1:1, Hebrews 4:14-16*
- Even though Jesus knew that Judas had to betray him in order to fulfill prophecy he showed his humanity by being troubled by the betrayal.
- In the Garden of Gethsemane the humanity of Jesus was clear for all to see.
Matthew 26:36-39

The One Jesus Loved

John 13:23-25

- The phrase "the one Jesus loved" is used a number of times in John's gospel.
John 19:26, 20:2, 21:20
- John the Apostle, the author of the gospel of John is also described as "the other disciple" as well as "the one Jesus loved." *John 18:15-16, John 20:2-9*
- John since he is viewed as the author of the gospel of John from early years of church history.

Satan Entering Judas

John 13:26-27

- Satan is said to have possessed Judas at this point in the events that led up to the cross.
- There is no biblical example of demon possession before Jesus is born.
- There is no biblical teaching for the believer regarding the casting out of demons in the New Testament after Pentecost.
- There is instruction regarding spiritual warfare for believers in the New Covenant era.
Ephesians 6:10-13

The Role of Unbelievers in God's Plan

John 13:28-30

- The role of unbelievers is an essential part of God's plan. *Acts 4:27-28*
- God elected unbelieving Israel to fulfill his plan of redemption. *Deuteronomy 7:6-8*
- God chose the 12 apostles but only 11 were to be believers.
- God elected some to be the spiritual Israel of God. *Romans 11:25-26*

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John 13-17

A New Command

John 13:31-38

Historical Context

- Judas has now left the disciples and the next time that we meet him is in the Garden of Gethsemane. *John 18:1-11*
- Judas previously met with the Jewish leaders, the Sanhedrin, and promised to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver. *Matthew 26:14-1*

Glorifying the Son

John 13:31-32

- The basic meaning of glorify could be stated as "making one look good."
- Jesus says that God is glorified in the Son of Man. This means that the obedience of Jesus, the Messiah, in his suffering and death brought honor to God the Father. *Romans 5:18-19*
- Jesus also says that God will glorify Jesus in Himself. Most likely this refers to the result of his suffering and death on the cross, which is the salvation of God's elect.

The Cross

John 13:33,36

- The explanation of the phrase "Where I am going you cannot come" is found in *John 14:36-38*. Jesus is referring to his death on the cross.
- Jesus is also going to prepare a place for us as believers and with regard to this place we are going to join him there. *John 14:1-4*

Loving as Jesus Loved

John 13:34-35

- The command to love one another is certainly not new. It is first found in the Mosaic Law. *Leviticus 19:18*
- What is new about this command is that now we have the example of God becoming man and showing us how to love one another.
- We must not make the mistake of thinking that we are called to do what Jesus did. We are called to follow the law of Christ, which details what it means to love one another. *1 Corinthians 9:20-21, 1 Corinthians 5:9-13*

Peter's Denial

John 13:36-38

- Jesus predicts that Peter will die for his faith but not now.
- God's plan for Peter is that he sin deeply and yet Peter is fully to blame for his denial of Jesus. *Romans 9:19*
- Jesus prayed for Peter that he would persevere and repent of his denial of Jesus. *Luke 22:31-34*
- All true believers have the assurance that they will persevere in their faith to the end. *Romans 8:30*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 14-17

Security for the Soul

John 14:1-6

Cure for a Troubled Heart

John 14:1

- Unbelief is the cause of a troubled heart. *Matthew 6:25-34*
- When we look at our life situation from any other perspective than the biblical point of view a troubled heart is likely to follow.
- We do not have to be afraid of our current circumstances because they have been determined by the wise planning of a loving Father. *Romans 8:28*
- The struggle that all believers deal with is how to battle through unbelief so that we can have a perspective that brings honor to our Lord. *1 Corinthians 10:31*
- Jesus as the God-man was the 2nd person of the trinity. His role is to reveal God to us. To believe in God is to believe in Jesus. *John 1:1,14-18*

Future Security

John 14:2-4

- To be a believer in Jesus Christ is to be a part of the family of God. *John 1:12-13*
- To be a part of the family of God means that we will always have a place with our Father in heaven.
- The 2nd Coming of Jesus will usher in the new heavens and earth and an eternal bodily existence for all those who are in the family of God. *Acts 1:9-11*
- Before this eternal bodily existence we at our death will be with the Lord in an intermediate state. *Philippians 1:21-24, Luke 23:39-43*

Another Doubt from Thomas

John 14:5

- Thomas, the apostle who was one of the 12, exhibited temporary doubt about the risen Lord. But this doubt soon made way for a strong statement acknowledging the truth of the risen Christ. *John 20:24-29*
- Here in *John 14* Thomas first expresses some doubt as to Jesus' statement that his disciples know where he is going.

Jesus is the Only Way

John 14:6

- Jesus is the only way for salvation since the cross is the only means by which our sins can be paid for and God's wrath is satisfied. *Romans 3:21-26*
- Jesus is the only way for salvation since he is the only perfect person to exist and therefore qualify to be our substitute on the cross. *Hebrews 2:13-18, 4:14-16, 1 Peter 1:18-21*
- Jesus is the truth since as God who became man he revealed the mind of God concerning how one could be accepted by the God of heaven and earth. *Luke 24:25-27*
- Jesus is the life since by his death on the cross we can have both a forgiven and transformed life but also eternal life. *2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 5:20*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 14-17

Jesus and the Father

John 14:7-14

How the Trinity Works

- There is ONE God. *Deuteronomy 6:4-5*
- There are THREE persons. *Matthew 28:18-20*

The Role of the Son

- Jesus is the 2nd person of the Trinity.
- The unique role of each person of the Trinity is called "Economic Subordination."
- His role is to reveal God. *John 1:1-18*

The "Signs" of Jesus

- The miracles of Jesus are also called "signs." *John 2:11, John 20:30-31*
- The miracles are called signs because they are indicators that Jesus is who he claimed to be, the Messiah who is the God-man. *John 5:36, John 10:37-39*

We shall do "Greater Works" than Jesus

- Jesus did many amazing works during his ministry on earth.
- The raising of Lazarus from the dead is a truly amazing miracle. *John 11:38-46*
- Jesus came preparing for the era of fulfillment. *Mark 1:14-15*
- Pentecost is the beginning of the New Covenant era, the time of fulfillment. *Acts 41-47, 1 Corinthians 10:11*
- The New Covenant era is the time for believing. It is the era of the Spirit. *1 Corinthians 2:6-15*
- The New Covenant era is the time when God will collect up the true people of God, the Israel of God. *Ephesians 2:11-18, Galatians 3:19-26*

Asking in the Name of "Jesus"

- Believers are in the family of God through believing in the saving work of Jesus on the cross. *John 1:12-13*
- Because believers are in the family of God they have the privilege and right to present their requests to God. *Hebrews 4:14-16, Philippians 4:4-7*
- We are to pray in the “name” of Jesus. This does not mean that we tack on his name at the end of every prayer. It means that we have the right to go to the Father in prayer because Jesus has purchased us through his death on the cross.
- The promise of getting what we ask for when we pray “in the name of Jesus” is not blank check. This promise is conditioned by other qualifications. *1 John 5:15-16, James 4:3, 1 Peter 3:7*

The Father Glorified in the Son

Jesus, the Son of God, brings glory to the Father by enabling believers to put their requests before the Father and receive what they asked for.

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 14-17

The Holy Spirit is “Coming”

John 14:15-18

Proof of Belief: the New Heart

John 14:15

- To be a believer is to be in love with the God of Scripture.
- To be in love with the God of Scripture is to desire obey his commands. *1 John 4:23-24*

Law of Christ

1 Corinthians 9:20-21

- The Law of Christ is the version of God’s law that we are under in the New Covenant era.
- The Law of Christ can be summarized by the one law, “have love for one another.” *John 13:34-35*
- The Law of Christ contains all the commands of Jesus and is Apostles as well as those portions of the Mosaic Law that are brought over into the New Covenant era. *Ephesians 6:1-4*
- The Law of Christ is not the believers’ motivation for obeying God’s law. The believers’ motivation is the work of the Holy Spirit. *2 Corinthians 3:18*

Holy Spirit is our Counselor

John 14:16

- The Holy Spirit is the believers’ counselor in the sense that he is the believers’ “helper.” This is idea that the Holy Spirit enables the believer to live for and grow in Christ.
- The NIV uses the term “advocate.” This brings out the idea that the Spirit works on our behalf.

Transforming Work of the Spirit

John 14:17a

- The only way you can have the transforming work of the Holy Spirit is by being born of the Spirit. *John 3:8, 1 Corinthians 2:14*
- The Spirit causes the believer to recognize that scripture is true because it is God's word.

The Spirit “will” be in you

John 14:17b-18

- The era of the Spirit, or the time of belief, is the New Covenant era. *Titus 2:11-12*
- The unique working of the Spirit in the New Covenant era can be seen in 4 areas:
Gifts of the Spirit (*Ephesians 4:7-16, Romans 12:3-8*)
Fullness of Revelation (*1 Corinthians 13*)
Motivation for Evangelism (*Acts 1:8*)
Family of Believers (*Romans 11:25-26*)
- All believers have forgiveness of sins and a new heart.
Hebrews 10:14, James 2:23, Acts 13:22
- The unique working of the Spirit in the New Covenant era guarantees that believers will experience greater spiritual growth.
- Jesus continues to be with us by means of his Holy Spirit. *Galatians 2:19-20*

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John 13-17

Growth is Guaranteed

John 14:19-26

From Grief to Joy

John 14:19-20

- The death of Jesus was the last that the world would see of him.
- The resurrection appearances of Jesus were only made to believers.
- Because Jesus rose from the dead we too as believers will experience a changed life now and eternal life when we die. *Romans 6:4-11*

Necessity of our Obedience

John 14:21-24

- A life of obedience to the law of Christ is not an option for the believer. *1 John 3:21-24*
- Works of obedience are never the cause of our salvation, yet we can never be saved without them. *James 2:20-26, Romans 3:28*

Jesus is “IN” the Believer

John 14:20

- From a certain point of view it could be said that the Holy Spirit lives in you.
1 Corinthians 1:19,
- From a certain point of view it could be said that Christ lives in the believer.
Galatians 2:20, Romans 8:9-11
- The Holy Spirit causes the believer to be Christ-like.

Rhetorical Question

John 14:22

- A glimpse of the resurrected and glorified Christ is given on the Mount of Transfiguration.
Matthew 17:1-13
- The revealing of Jesus to the world as he truly is will not take place until the 2nd Coming.
Revelation 19:11-16
- The disciples did not understand that the 2nd Coming of Jesus would not take place for some time. *Matthew 24:1-4*

Jesus only says what the Father tells him to say

John 14:24b

- The role of the Son as the God-man is to say only what the Father has told him to say.
John 17:8
- From the perspective of Jesus the Redeemer the Son is always submitting to the Father.
- Jesus, the Son, is equal to the Father as both are the one God. *John 14:9-10*

The Teaching Ministry of the Spirit

John 14:25-26

- It is true that the Holy Spirit is the cause of our understanding in the Lord.
1 Corinthians 1:10-16
- The context of this passage refers to the work of the Spirit in enabling the apostles to remember the words of Jesus so that they could be recorded as Scripture.

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

My Peace I Give You

John 14:27-31

Worldly Peace vs Godly Peace

John 14:27

- Worldly peace is tied to our circumstances.
- The example of worldly peace would be a walk in the meadow on a beautiful day.
- In the context of this passage Jesus is assuring the disciples that his going away is for their good.
- Godly peace is tied to a biblical attitude regardless of our circumstances.
1 Thessalonians 5:18
- Godly peace can be tied to our unconditional acceptance that we have with the Father through the cross of Jesus. *Romans 5:1*
- Godly peace can be a by-product of giving whatever concerns us to the Lord in prayer.
Philippians 4:6-7

Jesus is Going Away

John 14:28-29,31

- Jesus is going away as a result of his death on the cross, the resurrection, and his ascension. He will return at his 2nd Coming.

- As the God-man, the Messiah, Jesus in his role is in obedience to the Father.
- As the 2nd person of the trinity the son is fully God and equal with the Father. *John 10:31*
- Jesus going to the Father fulfills the Father's plan of salvation.
- If Jesus does not go away then Pentecost will not come and the gospel will not be proclaimed in all the world. *Acts 1:8*

Ruler of the World

John 14:30

- There is nothing that happens that is not determined by the Sovereign Will of God. *Ephesians 1:11*
- Satan cannot act independently of God. *Job 1:6-22, 2:1-10*
- As a result of Adam's sin everyone comes into the world both guilty of Adam's sin and has a bad heart. *Romans 5:18, Romans 3:9-18*
- All unbelievers have bad heart and are in slavery to their sin. *Romans 6:17*
- Satan, as the ruler of this world, holds control over all unbelievers since the result of sin means that unbelievers will never do anything with the express purpose of glorifying the God of Scripture. *John 8:42-44*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus is the True Vine

John 15:1-8

Israel is the Historic Vine

Isaiah 5:1-7

- The nation of Israel, under the Old Covenant, as the historical vine was a picture of the true people of the vine. *Romans 9:6-8*
- Israel was an unbelieving picture of the real people of God. *Galatians 4:21-31*

Jesus is the True Vine

John 15:1

- The New Covenant is the about Jesus the true vine. *Hebrews 8:7-13*
- Jesus purchases by his death on the cross those whom the Father chose to save. *Ephesians 1:1-6*

Getting the Right Perspective

John 15:2-3

- In the historical context Israel claims to be in the vine. They claim to be the real people of God. *John 8:30-47*
- Jesus speaks of the apostles as being already clean. This would be a way of saying that they had saving faith at this point in the gospels. *John 13:6-11*

Spiritual Fruit

John 15:5,8

- Spiritual fruit is the changed life that all believers will experience as a result of the death of Jesus on the cross. *Romans 8:1,5-9*
- Some teachers have mistakenly labeled spiritual fruit as those who become believers through your evangelism.

Privilege of Being in the True Vine

John 15:7

- To be a believer means that we are in the family of God and that we have Jesus as our high priest. *Hebrews 4:14-16*
- As a member of the family of God we have the privilege of asking our Father in heaven for everything that concerns us.
- This privilege is not a blank check, for there are qualifications that are attached to this privilege. *James 4:3*

Perseverance

John 15:4-7

- True saving faith will always persevere to the end. *Romans 8:30*
- There is no salvation without perseverance. *Hebrews 3:14*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Love One Another

John 15:9-17

John's Perspective

What we must Do

- This section of Scripture is looking at the Christian life from the perspective of what we as believers must do.
- The quality of the good works of the believer are never of a perfect quality so that they would merit or earn something from the Father. *Galatians 5:17*
- The good works that a believer does have their origin not in the believer but in the Lord. *Ephesians 2:10*

Motivation for Obedience

The Love of the Savior

- The Lordship of Jesus is not to be viewed as a burden for the believer. *Matthew 11:28-30*
- We must always remember that all our efforts to live for the Lord are done with the full understanding of his unconditional acceptance that we have through the cross. *Romans 5:1*
- Lordship is also never to be viewed as an option for the believer. *John 15:12*
- As a member of the family of God believers are truly “friends” with God.

Our Salvation was by His Choice

Election

- Israel was elected or chosen to be a special nation among the nations. *Deuteronomy 7:6-7*
- The election of Israel was not for salvation. *Romans 9:1-6*
- The true people of God, or the spiritual Israel, are chosen by God to be believers. *Ephesians 1:3-6, Acts 13:48*

Fruit is Not an Option

New Heart

- Spiritual fruit refers to the character qualities of the believer's life. *Galatian 2:*
- Fruit is required of the believer. *James 2:14-26*
- The Holy Spirit causes fruit for the believer. *Titus 2:11-12, Romans 8:1-2*

Perseverance is Guaranteed

Holy Spirit

- There can be no salvation without perseverance. *Romans 11:22*
- Perseverance is guaranteed to the believer. *Philippians 1:6*

Loving One Another

Mark of the Believer

- The love of the believer for others is the way that he shows that he is a God-lover. *Matthew 22:34-40, 1 John 4:20-21*
- The way that others see the new heart of the believer is in his love for others. *John 13:34-35*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Do Not Be Surprised by Persecution

John 15:18-16:4

The World

John 15:18

- World can be referred to as the earth inhabited by mankind. *John 6:14*
- In this context world means unbelievers. The world is characterized as an unbelieving world. *1 John 2:15-17, Ephesians 2:2*

Persecution is Inevitable

John 15:18-21

- As a result of Adam's sin everyone coming into the world (except Jesus) has a bad heart and is by nature a self-centered God-hater. *Romans 3:9-20, Ephesians 2:1-3*
- A believer is someone who seeks to be Christ-like. As a result if the world hates Jesus then it will hate those who seek to be like him. *1 Peter 2:21-23, John 3:19-20*

- Believers to not belong to this world. Our citizenship in in heaven. *Philippians 3:20*

Without Excuse

John 15:22-25

- Sin is breaking God's law. *1 John 3:4*
- The results or wages of sin is death. *Romans 6:23*
- Before the coming of Jesus mankind was guilty without excuse before God.
Romans 1:18-20, 28-32
- The passage refers to the guilt of rejecting the Messiah that now unbelieving Israel is guilty of committing.
- The miracles of Jesus served as a sign to indicate that he was the Messiah. *John 20:30-31*

The Coming Counselor

John 15:26-27

- The coming of the counselor refers to the beginning of the New Covenant era.
- The Holy Spirit will testify about Jesus when believers share him with unbelievers. The Great Commission is the means by which the Holy Spirit testifies about Jesus to the world.
Matthew 28:18-20

A Timely Warning

John 16:1-4

- When Jesus was with his disciples he would receive the persecution but would protect them.
- After Jesus leaves persecution will come to those who believe in him and love him.

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

The Coming of the Spirit

John 16:5-16

It is BETTER if Jesus goes away

John 16:5-11

Progressive Revelation

- Our God only progressively revealed his truth in Scripture.
- The disciples were not yet aware of the significance of the resurrection, ascension and 2nd Coming.
- The disciples were previously told that Jesus must die and rise again. *Mark 9:11*
- After the death of Jesus on the cross the disciples still did not understand that the resurrection must take place. *John 20:9*

It is better if Jesus goes away

- If Jesus does not go away the New Covenant era will not come.

- If Jesus does not go away the time of the Great Commission will not take place. *Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8*
- If Jesus does not go away there will not be local families of believers.
- If Jesus does not go away the Holy Spirit will not be giving spiritual gifts to the believers. *Romans 12:3-8*
- If Jesus does not go away believers in the New Covenant era will not have the fullness of revelation. *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Holy Spirit will convict the world of Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment

- In the New Covenant era as a result of the gospel going out unbelievers will now be confronted by the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Their rejection of the gospel will reveal their sin for all to see.
- When the gospel is shared with unbelievers their false sense of righteousness will be revealed. *Isaiah 64:5, Matthew 5:20*
- When the gospel is shared it becomes clear that Satan has been defeated and the unbeliever is under the just judgment of a holy and just God. *Hebrews 2:14, Revelation 20:11-15*

Holy Spirit reveals Truth

John 16:12-15

Specific Context

Jesus is referring to the time immediately following Pentecost when the Holy Spirit will bring to mind the words of Jesus so that the gospels could be produced.

Role of Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit does not promote himself but rather causes the believer to be Christ-like. *1 Peter 1:11*

Jesus Reveals His Future

John 16:16

It would seem from the context that Jesus is referring to his death on the cross and then his resurrection when his disciples would once again see him. *1 Corinthians 15:3-8*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

The Time for Speaking Clearly

John 16:17-33

Cross to the Resurrection

John 16:17-22

Knowledge Before the Cross

- In the first part of his ministry Jesus did not openly speak of this death and resurrection. *Matthew 13:10-17*
- Jesus began to speak of his suffering and death on the cross and the resurrection that was to follow to his disciples during the last portion of his ministry. *Matthew 16:21*

Grief to Joy

The grief that is caused by the death of Jesus on the cross will be replaced by the joy of seeing the resurrected Jesus.

Time for Speaking Clearly

John 16:23-30

Time Frame

This portion of John's gospel refers to the time following the resurrection.

The Role of the Father

- During the ministry of Jesus the disciples always turned to him for everything.
- In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus gives a preview of believers living in the New Covenant era. In that era they are told to address God through the person of the Father. *Matthew 6:9-15*
- During the ministry of Jesus before the cross he seldom gave a straightforward answer when he was questioned.
- During the time following the resurrection Jesus will speak clearly to his disciples. *Matthew 21:23-27, John 10:22-30*

How Should We Pray?

Trinity

- In the New Covenant era (Pentecost to the 2nd Coming) believers are to pray to the Father.
- They are able to do this because Jesus purchased their position in the family of God. *Hebrews 4:14-16*
- All things are done for the believer through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Romans 8:9*

Leaving and Returning

John 16:31

- The disciples will be scattered in the very near future when Jesus is taken away to be crucified.
- Jesus comforts them by telling them that he has overcome the world and all will be well.
- For us believers we will have trouble in this world, but our Savior has overcome the world and the Father's plan will be accomplished. *Philippians 1:6, Romans 8:28, James 1:2-4*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus Prays for Himself

John 17:1-5

The Occasion of the Prayer of Jesus

It is impossible to be certain about the exact circumstances or location of Jesus' prayer. Immediately before the prayer, Jesus is shown instructing his disciples; immediately after the prayer, Jesus is found leaving with his followers to cross the Kidron Valley. It is therefore reasonable to assume that Jesus uttered the prayer recorded in John 17 within the hearing of at

least some of his disciples. (*John*, Baker Exegetical Commentary of the New Testament, by Andreas J. Kostenberger, published by Baker, 2009, page 485.

Jesus is Praying

John 17:1

- As the 2nd person of the trinity Jesus is fully God and is equal to the Father. *John 1:1, 20:28*
- As the God-man, the Messiah, Jesus was a perfect man who represented men in his saving work on the cross. *Matthew 1:21*
- As the God-man Jesus prayed to the Father. A complete understanding of this is beyond us and lies in the realm of legitimate mystery.

The Authority of Jesus

John 17:2

The Role of the Son

The ministry of the Son was to purchase a people for the Father. *Matthew 1:21*

Limited Atonement

Jesus, the Son, died on the cross for his people, his sheep. *John 10:14-16*

Sorting out what it means to Glorify

John 17:1-5

Definition of Glorify

- To glorify is to exalt someone, bring honor to them, to make them look good.
- We are called to glorify our God by doing all things according to his word.

1 Corinthians 10:31

Glorifying the Son

- To bring honor to the Son by fulfilling his saving role to redeem a people by his death on the cross. *John 17:1*
- To exchange Jesus' position from humiliation to glorification. *John 17:5*
(Study notes from the NIV Study Bible, page 1663)

Glorifying the Father

Praise and honor is brought to the Father by the work of the Son. *John 17:4*

Knowing God

John 17:3

Knowing About

The common understanding of "knowing" is to know something about someone or something.

Knowing in terms of Relationship

In this context "knowing" is referring having a personal relationship with the living God.

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

John 17:6-19

His People

John 17:6

His Old Covenant People

Deuteronomy 7:1-11

- Ethnic Israel functioned as a temporary, unbelieving picture of the people of God.
- God chose or elected Israel to be the people of God in the Old Covenant.

His New Covenant People

Ephesians 1:1-10

- At the beginning of Jesus' ministry it is not clear that Israel would not be the real people of God. *Matthew 1:21*
- The elect of the world, mostly Gentiles, would be chosen as the real people of God through the death of Jesus on the cross. *Revelation 5:1-10*

His Apostles (the 12)

Mark 3:13-19

- The 12 Apostles, minus Judas, would make up the core of his disciples.
- The 12 were chosen directly by Jesus.

Jesus is Not Praying for the World

John 17:7-9

What Did the Apostles Know and Not Know?

They may not have understood that their Messiah had to die and rise again; they may not have grasped how he was to embrace and fulfill in his own person Old Testament motifs of kingship, sacrifice, priesthood and suffering servant. But they had come to the deep conviction that Jesus was God's messenger, that he had been sent by God and that all he taught was God's truth. (The Gospel According to John, by D.A. Carson, page 559)

Jesus Prays for His People

In this context his people are the disciples minus Judas. Later on in his prayer Jesus includes all those who were to believe on the witness of his apostles (verse 20).

Jesus' Prayer Equals Security

John 17:10-12

- If Jesus, who is God, is praying for our security in the faith, then it is as good as done.
- The non-elect, like Judas, have a role to play in the saving of the elect. *Romans 9:22-24*

Protection from the Evil One

John 17:13-16

The apostles, like all believers are absolutely secure in their faith. *Romans 8:30*

Holiness Through the Word

John 17:17-19

It is the word of God, as used by the Holy Spirit that transforms the believer. *Romans 8:1-9*

Jesus Meets with His Disciples

John 13-17

Jesus Prays for All Believers

John 17:20-26

What does it mean to be One?

John 17:20-23

- All believers have a supernatural desire to love one another. *John 13:34-35, Romans 8:5-9*
- All believers have a natural oneness with all other believers.
- Believers must constantly pursue oneness in all areas, including theology, with other believers. *Ephesians 4:1-6*

What does it mean to be in the Father and the Son?

John 17:21

- True believers will believe all that God has revealed to us. *1 John 4:13-16*
- True believers will seek to live in obedience to the revealed will of God. *1 John 5:1-5*
- True believers will seek to do everything for the glory of God. *1 Corinthians 10:31*

What does it mean when Jesus says he has given us the glory that was given to him?

John 17:22

- This means that Jesus has completed his task to save a people, and all those for whom he died will experience the fullness of that salvation. *Matthew 1:21*
- The fullness of our salvation is understood in the New Covenant, where all those in the New Covenant receive full forgiveness of sins and a transformed life. *Hebrews 10:14-18*

What does it mean when Jesus says that he is in us?

John 17:23,26

- The Holy Spirit can also be called the Spirit of Christ, since his role is to cause believers to become Christ-like. *1 Peter 1:10-11*
- To say that Christ is in you is the same thing as saying that the Spirit is in you. *Romans 8:9-10*
- When it is said that Jesus lives in us this is a phrase that means that the Holy Spirit is causing us to become Christ-like. *Galatians 2:20*

The Promise of Future Glory

John 17:24

- To be a believer in Jesus Christ is to mean that you have eternal life. *John 3:16*
- In the new heavens and earth we will see the glorified Jesus. *Matthew 17:1-5*
- In the new heavens and earth believers are described as a beautiful city. *Revelation 21:1-2, 9-14*

Knowing God

John 17:25

- The unbeliever knows intellectually that God exists through the evidence of the physical creation. *Romans 1:18-20*
- The unbeliever naturally knows that certain acts deserve God's punishment. *Romans 1:32*
- The only folks that God "knows" are those who are God-lovers and members of his family. *Matthew 7:21-23*