John Lesson 44

Robert Harkrider · John 17:1–26 · Series: **John**

INTRODUCTION

- Sanctified. That's a perfectly good word. It's a Bible word, and it really describes all who are Christians.
- This is the prayer that he prayed from his own heart unto his heavenly Father shortly before this crucifixion.

1 Glory With the Father Before the World Was

John 17:5; John 1:1–3; Philippians 2:5–11

- Jesus speaks about glory that he had with the Father before the world was.
- This thought points out that Jesus Christ is more than just a mere man.
- He is a distinct and different person from the Father, but he possessed the nature of Godhood.

2 The Apostles Given to Christ by Their Own Choice

John 17:6–12; John 6:44–45; Romans 6:16

- It wasn't by some choice of God and without their involvement, it was by their own choice.
- You want to come to the Christ, you want to be given to the Christ and life eternal be yours? Then be taught of God.
- Judas acted upon his own free will.
- The fact that God could tell before a thing happened what would happen, does not mean that God serves us like puppets at the end of a string. We are free moral agents.
- You can choose to lose the inheritance of life everlasting if you do not continue in his words.

3 Sanctify Them Through Thy Truth

John 17:13–19; 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14

- I'm not praying that you take them out of the world. But I do pray that my joy might be fulfilled in them.
- The word sanctified really means simply set apart to a holy purpose.
- Not through some mysterious, mystical or infusion of the Holy Spirit, but rather he says in verse 17, sanctify them through thy truth. Thy word is truth.
- As you are sanctified, it'll be through the process of hearing the gospel and obeying it.

4 That They All May Be One

John 17:20–21; 1 Corinthians 1:10–13; Ephesians 4:3–7

- The prayer of Christ is that believers be united.
- Christ did not encourage division. Nowhere does the New Testament encourage division.
- Speak where the Bible speaks and be silent, where the Bible is silent.

- Believers ought to be united, ought to be as one. That's the plea of the apostle. But it's also the plan of the New Testament.
- Put aside human traditions. Put aside church doctrines, and let's unite on what saith the Scripture.

5 Even As We Are One

John 10:30–33; John 5:23; John 14:21–23

- Just as believers can be one, so it is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit can all possess the nature of deity or Godhood and yet be one.
- United in purpose, united in aim, united in work.
- He possesses the nature of deity. He is from eternity. But he's not the same person as the Father.
- The fact that he prayed to his father says that there is more than one person or personality of deity or of Godhood.

6 Be With Me Where I Am

John 17:24–26

- Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given me be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory.
- Jesus knew that he was to be glorified, that he was to be in heaven.
- As people believe in the Christ come to the Father, so it is Christ wills that they should be with Him in heaven.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Do you have the love of God in your hearts? Have you come to know Him and obey Him? The will of Christ is that you be saved, but it will be through the Word of truth.**

MY NOTES