

“That All May Know God!”

John 17:1-5

Verse 1a: Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven,
& said: ***“Father, the Hour has come!”***

In the first part of verse 1 Jesus announces at last that His hour has come, this is in contrast to the beginning of His ministry & first public miracle at the Wedding of Cana earlier in John’s Gospel:

Jesus said to her, ***“Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My Hour has not yet come!”*** **John 2:4**

Q: What Does Jesus Mean: “Father, the Hour has come”?

A: The Word Used For “Hour” Does Not Refer To An Actual Literal 60-Minute Time Period, But Rather Denotes A Short Period Of Time, An Appointed Time. Jesus Was Referring To A Three-Day Period Surrounding His Betrayal, Trial, Crucifixion, Death, & Resurrection!

Verse 1b: ***“Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may Glorify You!”***

Verse 5: ***“And now, O Father, Glorify Me Together With Yourself, with the Glory which I had with You before the world was!”***

In the remaining part of this opening verse & In the fifth verse we see that Jesus prays for the glory He laid aside in coming to earth to dwell among us, His people, would be restored now at the moment of His death, & sacrifice for us! Paul the Apostle tells us of this laying aside of Glory and taking on of Humility By Christ:

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, & coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself & became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross!”

Philippians 2:5-8 (NKJV)

Q: “But Why Did Jesus Ask His Father To Return His Veiled Glory At This Moment?”

A

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| 1) That He Could Bring Glory To God His Father (x 3) | 17:1b, 4 & 5 |
| 2) That Everyone Would Know That He Was God In The Flesh (x 3) | 17:2a, 3 & 5 |
| 3) That Everyone Would Know How Much God Loved Them (x 3) | 17:19, 23 & 26 |

Verse 2: ***“As You have given Him Authority over all flesh that He should give Eternal Life to as many as You have given Him.”***

According to verse 2 - God the Father needed to return the Glory set aside by His Son in becoming human so that He may fulfill His Divine Mission:

This Return Of God’s Glory Upon Jesus Christ Will Allow All Of Us To Know Who He Really Is & It Will Also Give Him The Opportunity To Offer Us God’s Free Gift Of Grace, Which By His Eternal Mercy Leads To The Forgiveness Of All Of Our Sins & Gives Us Eternal Life In His Presence!

An Apparent Paradox Seems To Be Presented In This Verse

The Wording Seems To Point To “Divine Election” Or “Sovereign Will” Of God In Only Selecting A Few Chosen People; While Simultaneously, Leaving All The Others Condemned To An Eternity Exiled From His Presence In Hell!

However, this completely misses the Merciful Intention of Jesus’ Words in His Last Prayer to His Father!

The Ultimate Altruistic Intention Of God’s Grace & Mercy Offered To All Of Us Is Found In The Very Next Phrase Offered By Jesus To All Of Humanity!

**Verse 3: “And this is *Eternal Life* that they may know *You*,
the *Only True God*, & *Jesus Christ Whom You Have Sent*.”**

Here A Moral Dilemma – A Choice Of Our Freewill Is Presented To All Of Humanity:

**1) To Repent Of Our Sins & Selfish Desires
& Accept Jesus As Our Lord & Savior**

Or

2) To Reject Jesus’ Offer Of His Father’ Love & Mercy

We are presented with the truth that God is indeed alive and well! He is the Creator of all of us & the world around us! He is the author of life; He is the only One Who is perfect, and capable of forgiving us our selfishness choices made against Him and others! He alone has the authority and power to grant eternal life!

But We All Must Choose Whom We Will Serve:

1) Will We Serve God?

Or

2) Will We Serve Ourselves?

Based on our decision we either receive His grace, mercy, and forgiveness or we condemn ourselves to an eternity apart from Him, and everyone else’ presence. We find ourselves alone, without hope, and in a living tormented life of our own creation & our own choice!

**Verse 4: “I have *Glorified You* on the earth. I have finished the *Work*
which *You Have Given Me* to do.”**

Jesus Reminds His Followers Who Are Privileged To Overhear His Prayer

To His Father & Our Father That He Has Indeed Completed His Mission Here On Earth.

There Only Remains One Thing: To Offer Himself For Us & For His Father’s Glory,

To Offer Us Eternal Forgiveness, & Acceptance Into His Presence Forever By His Death On The Cross!

**Verse 5: “And now, *O Father*, *Glorify Me Together With Yourself*, with the *Glory* which I had with
You before the world was!”**

And because Jesus Christ was willing to offer Himself for us; God the Father did indeed restore that night in the Garden of Gethsemane the Glory Christ laid aside to dwell in human form. The Glory of His Exalted Name, the Name that is Exalted Above every name.

**“Therefore, *God* also has *Highly Exalted Him* & given *Him* the *Name* which is above every name,
that at the *Name of Jesus* every knee should bow, of those in heaven, & of those on earth, & of
those under the earth, & that every tongue should confess that *Jesus Christ Is Lord*, to the *Glory*
of *God the Father!*”**
Philippians 2:9-11 (NKJV)

**Jesus Came & Lived & Died Among Us As One Of Us
That We Might Come To Know God Our Father & Creator!
Jesus Came That We Might Have Our Relationship
With God Restored For All Eternity!**

Let Me Ask You Just One Question This Morning:

**Q: “Do You Really Want To Know God Your Father
& Be In Relationship With Him Forever?”**

**Q: “Do You Really Want To Others Whom You Love & Care About
To Know God Your Father & Be In Relationship With Him Forever?”**

**A: Then I Invite You Now To Go
& Tell Everyone You Meet This Week,
“That Jesus Came That We All Might Know God,
& Have Eternal Life With Him In Glory!”**