

“In The World But Not Of It!”

John 17:6-16

Verse 6: *“I have Manifested Your Name to the those Whom You Have Given Me out of the world. They were Yours; You Gave Them to Me, & they have kept Your Word.”*

Jesus knew that His earthly life was nearly over and His return to His Father was now imminent. So, He spent time in prayer directly for His beloved followers, the group of men and women who had believed He was indeed the Son of God. The One whom the Father had sent to reveal God to all of us!

Jesus Gave Us God’s Words & Taught His Followers The Importance Of Obedience!

Just As He Was Obedient To His Father - We Are To Be Obedient To Him!

Verses 7 – 8: *“Now they have known that all things which You Have Given Me Are From You. For I have given to them the Words Which You Have Given Me; & they have received Them (Words), & have known surely that I Came Forth From You; & they have believed that You Sent Me.”*

**Jesus Made God His Father Known To All Of Us Through His Divine Revelation In The Flesh!
Jesus Made The Name Of “God” Real & Personal To Us, His People In His Teaching & Actions!**

Verses 9 – 10: *“I pray for them. I do not pray for the world, but for Those Whom You Have Given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine Are Yours, & Yours Are Mine, & I AM Glorified in them.”*

Notice That Jesus Did Not Directly Pray For The Whole World.

Instead He Prayed For His Followers Whom God Had Called To Himself By His Holy Spirit!

**Jesus Knew That For Faith To Remain & Be Handed Down To The Next Generation,
His Followers Would Have To Be Protected From Physical & Spiritual Attacks!**

Verses 11 – 12: *“Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, & I Come To You. Holy Father, keep through Your Name Those Whom You Have Given Me, that they may be one as We are One. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your Name. Those Whom You Gave Me I Have Kept; & none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.”*

**Jesus Prays That Us - His Followers Will Be Kept By
The Power & Love That God Our Father Has For Us All!**

**Jesus Reminds Us That Our Freewill Decisions
Are Real Choices But They Are Also Already Known To God!**

**Judas Iscariot Is An Example Of The Difference Between
God’s Foreknowledge & Omniscience Vs. Our Freewill Decisions & Choices**

Verse 13: *“But now I Come To You, & these things I speak in the world,
that they may have My Joy fulfilled in themselves.”*

**Jesus Acknowledges That When He Departs This World,
He Will Leave Us His Holy Spirit & He Will Abide With Us!**

All We Have To Do Is Desire To Abide With Him In Close Communion!

**If We Will Continue To Desire To Abide In HIM,
Then His Presence Will Continue To Abide With Us!**

If His Presence Abides With Us By His Holy Spirit

**Then His Joy Shall Remain & His Joy
Will Be Filled To Overflowing Within Us!**

Remember The Main Premise Of John's Gospel Is Being Filled With God's Joy!

"As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments & abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may abide in you, & that your joy may be full." John 15:9-11 (NKJV)

Verses 14 – 16: *"I have given them Your Word; & the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world!"*

Jesus Wanted Us To Be In The World, But Not Of It!

He Wanted Us To Love Him Rather Than This World!

Jesus Wanted Us To Love One Another More Than Ourselves!

John the Apostle later in his life wrote these concerning the love of other, the love of God, the love of self, and the love of the World:

"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, & the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world is passing away, & the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever." 1st John 2:15-17 (NKJV)

Jesus Wanted Us To Be In The World, But Not Of It!

Jesus Wanted Us To Be His Friend Rather Than This World's Friend!

James. Jesus' earthly brother, reminds us where are affections need to remain in this life:

"Adulterers & adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

James 4:4 (NKJV)

Jesus' Final Prayer For His Followers Asked

For Divine Protection Against The Evil One, Satan.

He Prayed For Us Because He Knew That The World Would Come Against Us To Oppose Our Testimony & Our Teaching In His Name.

This Confrontation Would Be Direct By Attempting To Harm Us, Or Even Kill Us.

Or At Least Remove Us From Our Livelihood Or Position In Society

By Relegating Us To The Side Lines Of Society

This Confrontation Would Be Indirect Through Decrees Of Safety,

The Greater Well Being Of Society, Or By Heresy, Competing False Teaching, Spreading Rumors, & Through Innuendo About Our Character Or Our Real Intentions!

Jesus Also Knew That Satan Would Tempt Us Repeatedly Enticing Us

To Sin To Derail Us From The Unity & Abiding In The Holy Spirit.

This Would Also Derail Our Mission Of Testimony & Witness

To The Name Of Christ In The World Through Claims Of

Being Unscientific, Not Historical, Or Other Such Claims!

Satan Would Also Use Us In A Campaign Of Public Humiliation & Claims Of Hypocrisy.

Therefore, By Association Satan Could Invalidate Jesus' Words, His Message, & His Act Of Eternal Salvation On The Cross As Unable To Truly Transform Or Save Anyone!

But Above All Remember

God So Loved Us That His Only Son On The Night He Was Betrayed

Used His Final Moments Of Life Praying On Our Behalf!

Jesus Put Aside His Own Anxieties, Fears, Needs, & Wellbeing.

He Once Again Thought Only Of Us,

The Subjects Of His Never-Ending Unconditional Love!

Also Remember This

**Jesus Still Makes Constant Intercession For Us To This Very Day In Heaven
In The Very Same Way He Did That Night Long Ago,
Because Of His Never-Ending Grace, Mercy, Goodwill & Love For All Of Us!**

Let Me Ask You & I Just A Couple Of Questions This Morning:

**Q: "Do You Want To Be In This World But Not Of It,
Just As Jesus Christ Was In This World But Was Not Of It?"**

**Q: "Do You Want To Live For Him In This World,
And Not For Yourself, But For Others?"**

**Then I Invite You Today To Once & For All
Give Up Control Of Your Life & Freewill To Him!
Surrender All Of Your Hopes & Future Dreams To Him!
Never Take Back Control Of Your Life & Freewill Again!
Decide Today To Totally Set Your Life Apart For Him & For His Use Alone!**

**Then Tomorrow & Every Day Thereafter
By His Power At Work Within You
Decide Again & Again To Rededicate Your Life & Your Life's Work
For God's Honor & Glory To Do His Will In The World!**

**Then You May Truly Begin
To Live For Him & No Longer For Yourself!
*"Then You May Be In This World; But Not Of It!"***