

The Glory of God in Sacrifice

John 17:1-5 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 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. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

❖ Recap

- ¹ When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said
- **His previous words had been for the teaching and preparation of the disciples**
 - Jesus had been instructing the disciples and preparing them for what was coming...
 - His final words of instruction or comfort to them were:
 - John 16:33 ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”
 - Then He prays for them...

❖ Introduction

- **The Greatest Prayer ever Recorded**
 - Aiden: He Read John 17... He says... Daddy... it is the coolest chapter... the whole thing is a like a prayer...
- **In it Jesus Prays:**
 - For Himself...
 - For the Disciples
 - For Us...
- **Jesus prays specifically that we will be kept from the evil one...**
 - But He does not pray that we will be taken out of this world...
 - But that we would be in it...
- **Jesus prays that we would be one**
 - He prays that the people of the church would have such unity that it would be as His oneness with the Father...
- **So before Jesus is about to be arrested and beaten and mocked and crucified.**
 - He is praying to be glorified.... So that the Father would be glorified
 - And He is praying for His disciples and all believers to follow...

❖ Summary

- **Today there is a lot in these 5 verses...**
 - We see Jesus talking about a few things:
- **The Hour Has Come**
- **Jesus Prays for Glory so He Can Glorify**
- **Jesus is Given Authority to Give Eternal Life**
- **What is Eternal Life**
- **Doing God’s Work Glorifies God**
- **The Glory of Jesus in the Presence of the Father**

❖ The Glory of God is Extremely Important to God

- **And why would it be?**
 - Because when God is glorified, Men are brought out of death and into Life
 - Knowing God, Knowing Jesus is Eternal Life.

- **The Seeking of Self Glorification by God may seem to be the opposite of what we think**
 - But He is the only one in the universe worthy of being made great
 - And it is through the glorification of God
 - That men can have eternal life...
- **Because:**
 - He is glorified as caring and compassionate and forgiving on the cross...
 - He is glorified as the only powerful, perfect and acceptable offering for sin
 - John 12:32 ³² **And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."**

❖ **Glorifying God:**

- **When we say Glorified... It simply means that...**
 - Something or Someone will receive great Honor and Praise...
 - Or will be esteemed greatly...
 - Enhancing the reputation of Someone...
- **So, as we continue to talk about the Glory of God...**
 - Do not let that word become a cliché to you
 - Do not let it be a churchy word
 - Do not let it be a word that you throw into your prayer life to make it sound better
- **Let Glory be a Holy Word to you**
 - Let glory be a word with great meaning and power
 - Let glory be a word that you think on and meditate on...

❖ **To Understand this Prayer**

- **We must understand the Humility of Jesus**
 - To understand where He is going, We need to understand what He has Done...
- **In Phil 2 we see the greatest picture and explanation of what Jesus has done by coming as a man**
 - And I believe it offers insight into His relationship with men and with the Father...
- **Philippians 2:5-11 ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**
 - **Jesus Purposely unclothes Himself of His Glory...**
 - Can you see that here...
 - **Although He was in the form of God...**
 - Hebrews teaches us that He is the exact imprint of the nature of God
 - **He Made Himself nothing...**
 - Took the form of a servant
 - And was born in the likeness of men...
 - He was born in the likeness of something He created...
 - **Not only did He become one of us.**
 - He became one of the lowest of us...
 - And allowed himself to be beaten and killed by other men....
 - **Then We see how this brings about His glory...**
 - Through the cross Jesus is highly exalted....
 - But let me come right back to that...

❖ The Hour Has Come

- **“Father, the hour has come;**
- **The Hour...**
 - The Hour He is speaking of... is the hour in which was set aside from all creation
 - To put an end to death and destroy the power of sin and satan over men...
- **God has planned this day from the beginning of time...**
 - Jesus created us. Knowing that we would sin against Him
 - Jesus created Adam and Eve knowing they would be disobedient
 - Suffer the consequences of being thrown out of the garden
 - That they would face death
- **You may say it was just an innocent mistake**
 - But their sin:
 - Led to their first Son murdering His brother
 - And every terrible crime that has come to this earth since...
- **Man is responsible for the sin and destruction of this world**
 - God made it perfect... But Man messed it up
 - We allowed evil into a world that God made perfect and good...
 - And we have paid dearly for it....
- **But now the Hour has come**
 - The hour of Jesus suffering...
 - The hour for Him to be falsely accused...
 - To be mocked and put on trial...
 - And to be found guilty of being who He is...
- **The Leaders found Jesus guilty of saying He was God**
 - Either directly or indirectly...
 - By forgiving sin and saying He is I AM...
- **Can you imagine...**
 - If by claiming to be yourself you were found guilty and worthy of death...
- **So the hour has come...**
 - And Jesus is going to be hung on the cross...
 - After being nailed to the cross He would have the sins of the world placed on Him
- **The crucifixion of Jesus**
 - Was a time where God the Father poured out His wrath on His submissive and humble Son
 - Remember that Jesus UNCLOTHED himself of His glory
 - So that He could take the wrath of God for the sins of man...
 - And Jesus is there on the cross paying with His life blood
 - The sins that you and I commit.
- **The Hour Has come**
 - Not just for His Death
 - Not just His payment of Sins
 - But for His resurrection
 - Jesus would rise from the dead
 - Having defeated the grave
 - Having rendered it powerless over Him
 - And over any that follow Him... That is why what He has to say next follows so greatly...

❖ Jesus Prays for Glory so He Can Glorify

- ...glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,
- **Jesus is praying that through the cross He is glorified....**
 - His name is made great
 - His reputation is enhanced
 - He is made much of...
- **Jesus is praying that God will glorify Him...**
- **His Reason:**
 - So that He can glorify the Father
 - In His submission to the Father... He longs to use His every breath to bring glory to Him
- **The Cross was Glorious**
 - The cross glorified Jesus because it has shown:
 - He love for men...
 - And through the cross men can have eternal Life...
- **When Jesus is glorified...**
 - It turns out better for men...
 - Good things happen for mankind when God is lifted up...
- **Now the cross was suffering... yet... through the shame and suffering**
 - Many people are brought to God...
 - And Jesus looks forward to the cross...
 - Not as a time of sorrow...
 - But a time of rejoicing...
 - Hebrews 12:2 ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.
- **Application:**
 - Is this not to be our prayer...
 - In whatever purpose God has placed us in... Let it be that we long to bring glory to His name
 - Let it be that we say... if in success or failure... I want to glorify God
 - God if you bless me in any way... let it be that I glorify you with that blessing
 - If you gift me in any way, let me glorify you with it
 - If you allow me to suffer for you... let me glorify you with my suffering

❖ **Jesus is Given Authority to Give Eternal Life**

- ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.
- **Authority over all flesh**
- **To give Eternal Life**
- **To All you have given Him**
- **God is the author of our Salvation:**
 - Jesus has authority to give eternal life to all He has been given...
 - There is no room here to say that salvation originates from man's heart
 - Sin is what originates from our hearts...
 - And we would do good to remember that...
- **Jesus says:**
 - John 14:6 ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
- **We Must Remember:**
 - That Jesus has the authority... we often think we do... But it is God who can give eternal Life
 - Lets not apologize for that...

- I hear Christians all the time apologizing for things being the way they are
- As if it were odd that God would punish sinful people
- That God would create a place of torment for those that have sinned and died without payment for their sins...
- **Let it be the norm:**
 - God warned men of the consequences of their sins...
 - And then offers a free way out of sin...
 - What more could we ask for...
 - It is readily available
 - And it is free to receive

➤ **So what is eternal Life:**

❖ **Knowing God is Eternal Life**

- ³ **And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.**
- **Eternal Life is Knowing God the Father and Jesus Christ...**
 - To have eternal life, we must know God and Jesus
- **I like how He puts it... the Only True God...**
 - There is one God... Only one...
 - And He is the true God...
- **All other gods out there, are false..**
 - And you may say... how narrow minded of you that is...
 - How can you say that your God is the only real God
 - Because He has said it...
 - **And then HE proved it through:**
 - Prophecy
 - Miracles
 - Rising from the grave
 - And obviously coming and living in my heart., inside of me
- **To know Him, you must know him truly...**
 - And you must know Him through His Son Jesus Christ...
- **If I know the truth about something... why would I be ashamed to say it, or share it**
 - Could it be that I doubt it...?
 - If I do not, then why worry...
- **Example:**
 - If I knew that there was a section on a busy street that was about to cave in...
 - I would tell people about it...
 - I would warn people of this...
 - Because I have real first hand knowledge that it is weak...
 - And walking and driving on it is going to cause it to collapse...
 - I would not apologize for knowing this or being right...
 - I would tell people...
 - They may say... who do you think you are... I want to walk across this road...
 - To me it seems sturdy and able to hold me and my car...
 - But you know that it will not...
 - You would never say... I am sorry for offending your knowledge or thoughts... maybe you are right
 - NO... you would say... Brother, your knowledge is faulty for I am certain of the weakness of the road.
- **If a person wants eternal life...**

- They must KNOW the one True God and His Son Jesus Christ...
- John 6:28-29 ²⁸ Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” ²⁹ Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”
- John 1:12-13 ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

❖ **Doing God’s Work Glorifies God**

- ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.
- **Jesus speaks of what He has done, and what HE is going to do...**
 - This is very common in this language to do this...
 - To speak of events not yet completed as if they were....
 - And Jesus could do that because He knew He has done this...
- **When Jesus says this:**
 - He has in mind all of the things HE did while here, and the cross He was about to bear...
 - Jesus had sought out the disciples God gave Him
 - He told them the things about God that He wanted them to know
 - He showed them the power of God
 - The compassion of God
 - The heart of God
 - And the things of God
- **And now He is going to the cross...**
 - Where HE will finally say... it is finished... It is finished...
- **By doing God’s work... He has glorified the Father...**
 - This is something we should always remember...
 - That doing what God has called us to do, is how we glorify Him
- **Question:**
 - How are you glorifying God?
 - Are you doing what HE called you to do while you are on this earth?
 - Do you even know what He has called you to...
 - I certainly feel compassion for you if you currently do not know what God wants out of you...
 - But I am certain that if you are serious about following Him, He will make it clear to you
 - That through prayer and reading of the word, your Purpose and Mission in life will become clear
- **Let us do the works of God, that He may be glorified in us...**

❖ **The Glory of Jesus in the Presence of the Father**

- ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.
- **Here You see that Jesus had left behind His glory...**
 - We looked at this briefly...
 - But We see Jesus is ready for this to return...
 - He is ready to be reunited with the Father in Glory
- **The second part of those verse in Phil is what He is praying for Here...**
 - Phil 2:10-11 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- **Remember:**

- If Jesus is glorified.... It means that man can receive eternal life...
- It means that He is drawing men to God...
- ***Remember that Jesus is God... He is not just a man...***

➤ **His attributes are clear in Hebrews**

- Hebrews 1:1-3 ¹ Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

➤ **His Presence is Clearly Seen by John on Revelation:**

- Revelation 1:12-18 ¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

❖ **Invitation:**

➤ **Jesus is Exalted Today**

- Even if you do not spend your time doing it...
- One day... you will... Hopefully it is not too late

➤ **Christians...**

- There should be nothing you want to do more in your life
- Than to glorify your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

➤ **If you do...**

- You are not walking in fellowship with the Son...
- You are drifting away from Him...
- Come back to Him and live for Him..