

The Gospel of John

Chapter 17, Verses 1-5

Review

- **General Introduction**

- *one of the **four gospels**, each of which is a biography of Jesus and an historical narrative of his life*
- one of the **five Johannine books**, all of which are among the last books in the Bible to have been written
- written in Greek, primarily to those who already believed in Christ, including **both Jews and Gentiles**

Review

- **Basic Structure**
 - *Prolog* – First 18 verses of Chapter 1
 - *Jesus' Public Ministry* – Until the end of Chapter 12
 - *Private Time With His Disciples* – Chapters 13-17
 - *Trial, Death, and Resurrection* – Chapters 18, 19, 20
 - *Epilog (resurrection appearances in Galilee)* – Chapter 21

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- **Chapter 13 (Several Troubling Revelations):**
 - Meeting privately with them over supper, Jesus discomfited his disciples by washing their feet, in order to teach them an important lesson, which he said they would understand later.
 - He told them that he knew one of them would betray him.
 - He said he was going someplace they could not follow and urged them to love one another.
 - Peter said he would follow Jesus anywhere, even if it cost him his life, but Jesus foretold that Peter would deny him 3 times.

Review

- **Chapter 14 (Words of Comfort):**
 - Jesus told his disciples *he was going to the Father to prepare a place for them*, he would come again, he was the way to the Father, and that to see him was to see the Father.
 - He said that after he had returned to the Father, *the Holy Spirit would come to live in them*, causing them to remember, understand, and keep his words, so that whatever they asked in his name would be accomplished.
 - *He said his death would not be a victory for Satan* but, a *demonstration to the world of his love for the Father.*

Review

- **Chapter 15 (Jesus' Union with his Disciples):**
 - Beginning with the figure of *the vine and the branches*, Jesus spoke of the union between himself and his disciples.
 - He had chosen them to bear fruit and shared with them all the Father had made known to him. *They were his friends*.
 - *They would express their love for him by obeying his commands, especially the one that they love one another*.
 - Without cause *the world had hated Jesus and, likewise because of him, it would hate his disciples*. But he would send the Holy Spirit, who would come and help them.

Review

- **Chapter 16 (For Jesus' Disciples the Coming Joy is Certain):**
 - Jesus made these remarks privately to his disciples **to keep them from falling away** after he had gone.
 - Jesus foretold that his disciples would briefly lament his death, but **their sadness would quickly turn into joy.**
 - He reiterated that **his going away was for their benefit, because the Holy Spirit would come,** convict the world, guide his disciples into all knowledge, and etc.
 - **On that day, they would approach God freely and directly and whatever they asked in Jesus name would be given.**

Comment (on John 16:33)

- Jesus never said that their life in the world will be easy.
- On the contrary, he foretells repeatedly that they will be persecuted by the world, because they are his disciples.
- But he says that he has (already) overcome the world that will soon crucify him and afterward persecute them.
- Such is the peace that they (and we) may have in him!
- It is that we may have such peace that Jesus has said all of these things.

Comment (on time sequence)

- At the end of Chapter 16, we come to the point in John's gospel where Jesus has finished teaching his disciples.
- Unlike the world, these disciples have stayed with Jesus.
- Lately (16:29,30) they have felt that they are finally coming to understand Jesus' divinity and the literal meaning of his teaching.
- This understanding is still not a belief that will prevent them from being scattered when Jesus is taken from them. (16:31,32)

Comment

- However with the resurrection of Christ and the coming of the Holy Spirit, “that day” will come
- This story is now at the very border between how things had been and how things would be.
- Just here (Chapter 17) Jesus is moved to pray, first that God would be glorified in what was about to happen, then for his disciples, and finally for future believers.
- This prayer was (also) intended for the edification and comfort and encouragement of his disciples (and us).

John 17:1-5

17:1これらのことを語り終えると、イエスは天を見あげて言われた、「父よ、時がきました。あなたの子があなたの栄光をあらわすように、子の栄光をあらわして下さい。

17:2あなたは、子に賜わったすべての者に、永遠の命を授けさせるため、万民を支配する権威を子にお与えになったのですから。

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17:3永遠の命とは、唯一の、まことの神でいますあなたと、また、あなたがつかわされたイエス・キリストとを知ることでもあります

17:4わたしは、わたしにさせるためにお授けになったわざをなし遂げて、地上であなたの栄光をあらわしました。

17:5父よ、世が造られる前に、わたしがみそばで持っていた栄光で、今み前にわたしを輝かせて下さい。

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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.

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⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

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- This clearly marks the beginning of Jesus prayer, recorded in Chapter 17. (The end is clearly marked in 18:1)

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- Jesus intends that this prayer be seen and heard by his disciples and (through them) recorded for our benefit.
- Jesus' uplifted eyes direct attention toward the Father, who is everywhere, of course, but also transcendent.

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- His disciples, then, and we through them, are made to understand that they are now listening to the man Jesus speaking to God --- Jesus characteristically addresses God as Father and refers to himself as God's Son.

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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,

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- Throughout the Gospel, we have occasionally been reminded that “the hour” is coming but has not yet come.
- Jesus is not, of course, informing God of this fact, but he is informing his listening disciples that “the hour” **has** come.

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- “The hour” is first of all the hour of Jesus’ death on the cross, which inaugurates “the hour” of his supreme glory.

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- “The hour” is first of all the hour of Jesus’ death on the cross, which inaugurates “the hour” of his supreme glory.
- Jesus is here, I think, laying down his life, full-willing, as the supreme act of perfect obedience to God, his Father.

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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**,

- Jesus death and resurrection glorify not only or even primarily himself, but God the Father, whose perfect plan and character are vindicated and displayed in his Son.

John 17:2

あなたは、子に賜わったすべての者に、永遠の命を授けさせるため、万民を支配する権威を子にお与えになったのですから。

since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

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- The Father has given Jesus authority over all flesh

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- The Father has given Jesus authority over all flesh.
- Including the authority to give eternal life.

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since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

- The Father has given Jesus authority over all flesh.
- Including the authority to give eternal life.
- Thus the Father glorifies Jesus and Jesus glorifies the Father among men.

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since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life **to all whom you have given him.**

- However it would seem that not “all” flesh is given eternal life by Jesus, but only “all whom the Father has given him.”

John 17:3

永遠の命とは、唯一の、まことの神でいますあなたと、また、あなたがつかわされたイエス・キリストとを知ることです。

And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

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- Here Jesus seems to anticipate and answer the question, “who shall have eternal life?”

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- Here Jesus seems to anticipate and answer the question, “who shall have eternal life?”
- His answer is that all live eternally who know (and honor) God, the Father of Jesus Christ, as the only true God.

Comment

- Whatever eternal life is, it surely belongs to, and consists of, those who know God.
- The only way to know God, is to know Jesus Christ.
- Men come to know Christ by the grace of God.
- All who come to know Christ shall have eternal life.

John 17:4

わたしは、わたしにさせるためにお授けになったわざをなし遂げて、地上であなたの栄光をあらわしました。

I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.

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わたしは、わたしにさせるためにお授けになったわざをなし遂げて、地上であなたの栄光をあらわしました。

I glorified you on earth, *having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.*

- Jesus has accomplished all the work God gave him, except for the very difficult things that remain to be accomplished in the final hours of his life.

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- He is so confident of how things will finish, that he can now speak of his work as already accomplished.

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- He is so confident of how things will finish, that he can speak of his work as already accomplished.
- The man Jesus has (in effect already) glorified God on earth and will soon be arrested, crucified, and buried.

John 17:5

父よ、世が造られる前に、わたしがみそばで持っていた栄光で、今み前にわたしを輝かせて下さい。

And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

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- but now more clearly is a prayer for resurrection and ascension following his death.

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- but now more clearly is this a prayer for resurrection and ascension following his death.
- This completes the circle begun in 1:1 (c.f. 16:28)