

What Jesus Prays for His Disciples Part V

John 17:14

I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. **18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.**

As we come to the close of this sub section we again see that Jesus prays for the disciples that they will finish the work that He came to do.

What an awesome challenge. To be called to pick up where the Savior must lay down His mission.

Later in John Jesus does just what He prays here in 20:21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." Although in 17:18 Jesus uses the same aorist tense, that speaks of completed action. I think the idea is that He sent them and would commission them again.

- I. **As**
 - A. What this says is that the apostles had the same commissioning as did the Savior.
 - 1. Not that they would die for our sins, but that they were "sent with a message"
 - B. Boice ties this all back to the things that Jesus has already prayed for the disciples.
 - 1. That they might have His joy.
 - a. Therefore the disciples were to be joyful in their mission.
 - b. They were to be joyful witnesses, as they were even joyful martyrs.
 - c. If you have no joy, don't tell anyone that you belong to Jesus.
 - d. The world already thinks that Christians are miserable people who what everyone to be as miserable as themselves.
 - 2. That they would be holy as Jesus is holy.
 - a. The disciples were not be touched by the greed, pride, and arrogance of this world.
 - b. They were to be holy, living above the "everybody's doing it" mentality.
 - c. If your life is filled with sin, don't tell anyone that you are a follower of Jesus, because you probably are not.

3. That they would be sanctified by the truth.
 - a. Jesus said He had given them the word of God and that the Word of God would separate them from the world.
 - b. Now if what you believe is stated in the Bible, then you are on the right track.
 - c. But if your faith is based upon what you think, or what you want the Bible to say then you do not have the truth, God's Word is truth.
4. That they were apostles, those sent with a message.
 - a. That is the meaning of the word.
 - b. NT:649 NT:649 ἀποστέλλω **apostello** (ap-os-tel'-lo); from NT:575 and NT:4724; set apart, i.e. (by implication) to send out (properly, on a mission) literally or figuratively:
 - c. They were sent in the same way and for the same purpose as was Jesus.

II. You

- A. Here is the authority of the commission.
 1. God the Father sent the Son into the world.
 2. It is that same authority that sends them into the world.
 3. They are not out on their own, trying to tell others their idea of who God is and what He wants.
- B. What an awesome responsibility.
 1. Think of yourself being a follower of the greatest teacher, influencer of all time and then having Him telling you that He is leaving and that you are going to take over.
 2. But we must remember that what God calls people to do, He gives them the tools to perform.
 3. The same Word of God is available to us.
 4. The same Holy Spirit will lead and empower us.

III. Sent

- A. Jesus was sent by the Father.
 1. In the great plan of redemption, Jesus agreed to come to earth as a human and to suffer and die in our place.

2. He started His church which still continues today.
- IV. Me
- A. The scary part of this is to realize that Jesus will be replaced by the apostles.
 1. How do you think they felt trying to step into the shoes of Jesus.
 2. But they were successful, by the On who commissioned them.
- V. Into the world
- A. What a mission field!
 1. It is not a question of where we can go but where can we not go, nowhere.
 2. Each of the Gospels gives a commission as does the book of Acts.
 3. In John's Gospel that commission is found in John 20:21
 4. Jn 20:21 (NKJV) So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."
- VI. I also have sent
- A. Jesus uses the exact same word for "sent" where the Father sent Him.
 - B. NT:649 NT:649 ἀποστέλλω **apostello** (ap-os-tel'-lo); from NT:575 and NT:4724; set apart, i.e. (by implication) to send out (properly, on a mission) literally or figuratively:
- VII. Them into the world.
- A. Now let me as a question.
 1. How long did the apostles live?
 2. Who took their place?
 3. Where do we fit in this equation?
- VIII. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.
- A. By His death, Jesus would make the ultimate sacrifice.
 - B. He gave His life, even to suffering and death to give us the truth.
 - C. How are we doing with it?
 - D. What are we doing with it?