



John 16:28-33, “I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.” His disciples said to Him, “See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God.” Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

In those sentences above is the sum of the Christian Faith.

- ✓ *Jesus is God, having existed in heaven’s glory and goodness before He ever came to the earth.*
- ✓ *Jesus was born as a man, having added humanity to deity.*
- ✓ *Jesus would die.*
- ✓ *Jesus would rise from the dead and ascend to heaven (to the Father and ours).*

NOTE: There is a little more to the final summary for the Christian...

1. HE WILL COME BACK TO TAKE US HOME!

*“I will come and receive you to myself! That where I am you will be also.”
John 14:3b*

2. WE WILL BE LIKE HIM AND WITH HIM!

“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.” 1 Corinthians 15:52

The summary statement in the previous sentence made the disciples feel that now they understood.

- *They seem to have been sincere, but more confident in their faith than they should have been.*
- *Jesus did not doubt the belief of the disciples, but warned them that their faith would be shaken before it was finally settled within them...The Holy Spirit would make sure they would understand this part of the final plan.*

- They would find it much easier to believe on Him in the upper room than in the Garden of Gethsemane, where they would all flee **each to his own way...and would leave Jesus alone.**
- The crisis would come soon, and when it did the disciples would think, “every man for himself” and abandon Jesus **alone.**

Summary:

- **“There Jesus stands. They have left him alone; but there He is, still standing and resolved to fulfill His purpose.**
 - ✓ He has come to save, and He will save.
 - ✓ He has come to redeem, and He will redeem.
 - ✓ He has come to overcome the world, and He will overcome it.”

(Spurgeon)
- Knowing that Jesus has **overcome the world** brings us **good cheer.** It is the foundation for our **peace** in Him.
- We see that Jesus is in control, we see that although He leaves, He does not abandon, we see that He loves, and we see that the victory is His.

We can be of good cheer indeed!

In the next segment of our study in the Gospel of John, the Importance of Prayer is Identified and brought to the forefront.

Prayer has always been the key to defeating the enemy...depression, anxiety, fear of dying, overcoming sinful past, understanding the reason for our being, and on and on and on.

- The Bible contains a total of 650 listed prayers.
- There are approximately 450 recorded answers to these prayers.
- Paul mentions prayer 41 times in his writings.
- The Bible lists five specific postures for prayer: sitting, standing, kneeling, with one’s face to the ground, and with hands lifted up.
- **Jesus is recorded praying 25 different times during his earthly ministry.**
- **The Bible lists at least nine main types of prayer: prayer of faith (James 5:15), prayer of agreement (also known as corporate prayer) (Acts 2:42), prayer of request (also known as petition or supplication) (Philippians 4:6), prayer of thanksgiving (Psalms 95:2-3), prayer of worship (Acts 13:2-3), prayer of consecration (also known as dedication) (Matthew 26:39), prayer of intercession (1 Timothy 2:1), prayer of imprecation (Psalms 69), and praying in the Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:14-15).**

Note: Some may question the prayer of imprecation. In religious terms, an imprecation is a prayer for evil or misfortune to befall another¹. As an example, Psalm 69:24 states toward God, "Pour out Your indignation on them, and let Your burning anger overtake them".

The most significant prayer in the Bible would have to be found in John 17.

Wouldn't you know it...It is a prayer like no other...by Jesus!

John 17:1-26, "17 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. ³ Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Jesus Prays for His Disciples

⁶ "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

Jesus Prays for All Believers

²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be

brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. ²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I have made you^e known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

- ✓ When you hear a truly faithful man or woman of God deep in prayer; there is something holy and awesome about it. This prayer Jesus prayed unto His God and Father is the only long, continuous prayer of Jesus recorded in the Gospels. The sentences are simple, but the ideas are deep, moving, and meaningful.
- ✓ I believe there is no voice which has ever been heard, either in heaven or in earth, more exalted, more holy, more fruitful, more inspiring, than the prayer offered up by the Son to God Himself.
- ✓ You see the nature and heart of Jesus in this prayer.
- ✓ He was prepared and ready to open a way for the sinner to be part of the Kingdom of God.

Our salvation, born-again experience and Holy Spirit anointing should make us shout out....”Glory to the One who overcame!”