

# The Glorification of the Son

Series: Ten Messages from John 17

Rod Myers

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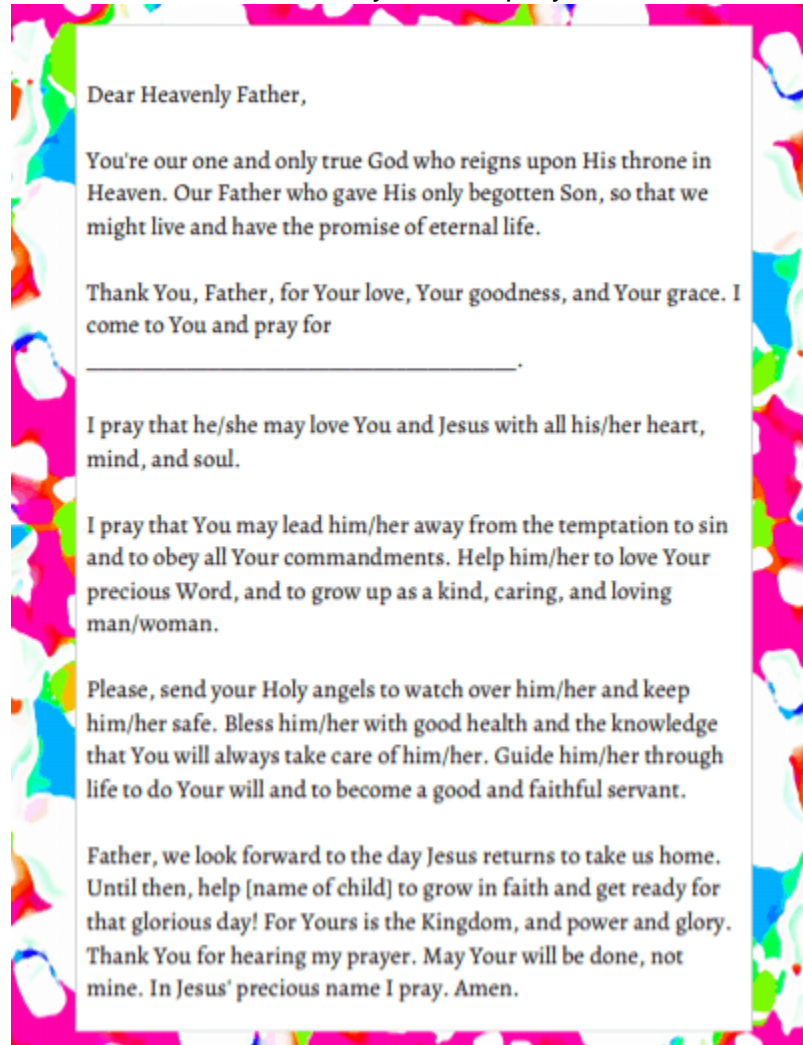
John 17 has always been a favorite chapter of mine. It is a prayer, one of the last prayers Jesus prayed while on earth. The prayer has three focuses:

Regarding His Father

Regarding His First Century Disciples

Regarding His Other Disciples Who Would Follow (Including us)

There are certain people I would give most anything to hear their prayers for me. Oh how I wish I could hear my mother pray for me!



John 17:1, 4, 5, 24

“After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: Father the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.” “I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.” “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.”

- What did Jesus see that the apostles could not see when he looked into heaven?
  - When Jacob looked into heaven, what did he see? Read Gen.28:10-17
  - When Isaiah looked into heaven, what did he see? Read Isaiah 6:1-7
  - When Stephen looked into heaven, what did he see? Read Acts 7:54-56
  - When Paul looked into heaven, what did he see? Read 2 Cor.12:1-4
  - When John looked into heaven, what did he see? Read Rev.1:9-18
- Jesus knew the path back to glory was the way of the cross
  - The hour has come.
    - Yet in John 7 when Jesus’ brothers encouraged him to go publically into Jerusalem Jesus said, “My time is not yet here; for you any time will do. The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil. You go to the festival. I am not going up to this festival, because my time has not yet fully come.” (7:6-8)
  - Heb.12:2b, “For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”
- Jesus spent his earthly life glorifying his Father.
  - Mystery of how what is done on earth can enhance the glory of God in heaven.
  - Jesus accomplished this by finishing the work given to him. (Obedience is the means to glorifying God.)
- Jesus longed for the experience of his previous glory.
  - Before the world began and before the creation of the world.
  - What was this glory like?
    - Heb.1:3, “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the **exact representation of his being**, sustaining all things by his powerful word.”
    - Heb.2:9, “But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.”
    - John 1:14, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father **full of grace and truth.**”

- It is a glory that is found in the presence of God. Literally it means “at thyself.” It is comparable to John 1:18, “the bosom of the Father.” It is as close in proximity as one can get to another person. Moses longed to get that close, to see the face of God, but was only allowed to see his back- but even then he glowed with the glory of God.
- Jesus wants us to see (and experience) the glory that he had and has with the Father.
  - Parents want their children to share in their most glorious experiences.
    - Surely we can do better than a ride at Disney World!
    - Surely we can do better than a video game!
    - Surely we can do better than fireworks.
    - Surely it will exceed drugs, parties, physical touch, and vacations.
  - Can you hear Jesus saying to his apostles” “You are not going to believe what I have in store for you. No eye has seen, and no ear has heard, what I have prepared for you. It will an experience unlike anything you have ever experienced in your life. You will enjoy ecstasy that surpasses the most jaw dropping moment of your life. The excitement you are going to feel will be overwhelming. I am getting everything ready for you. When you cross over from death into life be ready to be transported into the third heaven. You will have no words to describe it. Buckle up.
  - The journey begins here and now-we can begin the experience his glory now if we will simply let go of the bonds of earth. Read 2 Cor.3: 17-18

The John 17 prayer begins with Jesus being excited that he soon will be done and will be able to be with his Father, and he wants to pass this same excitement on to us.