

Text: John 17:20-26

Subject: A Special Prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ V

INTRODUCTION

²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

²¹ that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

²² And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

²³ I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

²⁴ "Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me.

²⁶ And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

John 17:20-26

1. Prayer for other Disciples

- a) The immediate set of Disciples were already prayed for (John 17:1-19)
- b) The subsequent Disciples that would be made were also prayed for
 - i) Disciples through evangelism
 - ii) Through faith in the Lord Jesus
 - iii) Through the ministry of the Word
 - iv) The key word is "disciples" (and not just "believers")

2. Foci of this special prayer for the Future Disciples

- a) The Foci are the same as that of the original disciples
- b) The Lord's prayer was for both:
 - i) The original Disciples
 - ii) The future Disciples

3. The specifics:

a) Oneness/ Unity

That they may be one John 17:21

- i) As the Father and the Son are one
- ii) That the world may believe through their oneness

b) Intrinsic Glory

- i) There is a glory that comes with oneness
- ii) This glory would be given to the future Disciples too
- iii) Made perfect in one John 17:23

c) The future glory

- i) To be in heaven with the Lord Jesus
- ii) This is fullness of Glory in Heaven

d) Love

- i) The Father's love for the Son
- ii) This would be declared to the future Disciples
- iii) This special love would be experienced by the future Disciples too

4. The Relationship of the Lord Jesus with God

- a) Father- Son relationship
"Righteous Father" John 17:24, 25
- b) The closeness of relationship was carefully sustained throughout

c) The Lord Jesus was committed to declaring:

- i) The Father's glory
- ii) The Father's name
- iii) The Father's love