

John 17

Our Lord's High Priestly Prayer.

Jesus prays for Himself.

- 1 The time had come for Him to die on the cross. He asks His Father that He may be glorified and in turn glorify The Father by His obedience unto death.
- 2 The Father has given Him absolute dominion. He has the power to give eternal life.
- 3 What is eternal life? Intimate knowledge of and relationship with The Father and the Son.
- 4 He has glorified the Father by completing the task.
- 5 The ultimate glory for The Son would be to return to where He had been.

Jesus prays for His disciples.

- 6 They had been given to Him by the Father. The evidence that they were His was their obedience to the Word.
- 7, 8 They were convinced of His divine nature.
- 9, 10 Christ loves His people, He died for them, He prays for them. They belong to Him and The Father, and they reflect His glory.
- 11 They will still be in an antagonistic world. He prays for their protection and their spiritual unity.
- 12 Whilst with them the Saviour had kept them all bar one.
- 13, 14 He prays that they may experience joy, in spite of the world's hatred.
- 15, 16 He does not want them out of the world. No monasteries or communes or sheltered workshops. They were and are to be in the world as salt and light. He wants them protected from the temptation of the devil.
- 17 For the conflict He prays for them to be separate from the sins of the world by The Word of God.
- 18, 19 They are being sent by the Son as He had been sent.

Jesus prays for all believers in all time.

- 20 Those saved through the disciple's testimony.
- 21-23 That they may exhibit a loving unity
- 24 The final destiny of all the Lord's people.
- 25, 26 The world does not know. But there is a continuing work making the Father known to believers.