John 17:1-8 Sermon ID - 2003 07 05 09

PRAYER MEETING

"CHRIST'S HIGH PRIESTLY PRAYER"

Introduction

1. The Discourse is now concluded by prayer
2. Our example to pray with and for one another
3. General divisions
   - (i) Christ prays for Himself
   - (ii) for the apostles
   - (iii) for all believers

   OBSERVE: This is a sample of our Lord's ministry at God's right hand now for the whole church;
   - (i) our Lord sees the future of the church
   - (ii) He has a unique relationship with the church
   - (iii) He is especially concerned for the Unity, Glory and Love among believers

1. LET US SEE WHAT HONOUR CHRIST HAS IN HEAVEN

1) Christ is despised here on earth – was about to be crucified – is often dishonoured.

2) But not so in heaven:
   - (i) "Glorify thy Son"
   - (ii) "power over all flesh"
   - (iii) "as many as thou hast given him"
   - (iv) "whom thou hast sent"
   - (v) "I have finished"
   - (vi) "Before the world was"
   - (vii) "I have manifested"

   OBSERVE: Every phrase is shot through with glory

3) No wonder we hear the praises of heaven given so fully to Christ! (Rom. 5)
   APPLICATION: Let us have this same spirit!

2. LET US SEE WHAT A SURE FOUNDATION OUR FAITH RESTS ON AS BELIEVERS

1) We have this Lord Jesus as our Saviour!

2) His person and work are infinitely precious to God – "finished"

3) God will give us whatever we need to get through life to the heavenly glory

4) We have our names in Christ's mouth and in His Book of Life
   APPLICATION: O let us rejoice for our safety!

3. LET US SEE HOW CHRIST CARES FOR US

1) Our Lord speaks of what he sees in us:
   - (i) "they have kept thy word"
   - (ii) "they have known…are of thee"
   - (iii) "they have received thy words"
   - (iv) "they have known…and from thee"
   - (v) "they have believed…"

2) Consider how generous our Lord is
   - (i) in the light of our feeble faith
   - (ii) of our dimness of understanding
   - (iii) of our proneness to backslide

   OBSERVE: Christ values "little faith in us"!
   APPLICATION: As he is generous to us as believers, so should we be to each other.

4. CHRIST HAS FINISHED ALL HIS WORK HERE

1) v.4: None could ever say this but he:
   - (i) a life of perfect holiness
   - (ii) a complete obedience to God's will
   - (iii) a fulfilment of all the prophecies
   - (iv) a perfect ministry of teaching
   - (v) a wonderful host of miracles
   - (vi) a death of infinite value

(vii) a ransom paid for all God's elect

2) Let us try to be like him:
ILLUSTRATION: Calvin at the end.

CONCLUSION

Every atom of Christ's prayers will come to pass.

PSALM

103: 13 – 18

102^2: 23 – 28

103: 19 – 22