

John Lesson 49 17:20-26 Part 3

Pray: Before you begin lift your heart to God and ask for the Spirit's help as you read the passage and work through these questions in His divine presence and you certainly will be given understanding.

Background:

At the end of Jewish Literature there was often a prayer or blessing and a recap of recurring themes. We see both a prayer and recap of several recurring themes in John here in Chapter 17.

The name of God in the New Testament is used for all those qualities which to His worshipers are summed up in that name and by which God makes Himself known to men; it is therefore equivalent to His divinity. Thayer's Greek Lexicon

When God revealed His name to Moses, He revealed His character and attributes. (See Exodus 33:19, and 34:5-7,14)

God's name in the Old Testament also meant His honor or reputation. To hallow or sanctify God's name was to demonstrate His holiness, and it's sacredness.

Key Words:

Name: Strong's G3686 "onoma" authority or character

Read 17:20-26

1. What can you learn that is true about the disciples who would follow the 11 from the prayer of Jesus to the Father in vv. 20-26?

2. What does Jesus pray for those disciples in 17:21-23? Include the reasons that Jesus gives for His prayer.

Application: Why is unity among believers important? We are commanded in Ephesians 4:1-3 to maintain the unity of the Spirit. What can you do personally to foster greater unity among the believers in the church body to which you belong?

3. In 17:24 what does Jesus desire for each believer? How can this be an encouragement to us when we are discouraged?

Application: Jesus promises to make God's name (character) known to His own. What are some ways we can co-operate in making that happen? Is there anything keeping you from knowing God on a deeper level?

4. In 17:26 what else besides unity does Jesus desire for his disciples?

5. Look back over the entire chapter 17. What themes do you find that we have seen in our study of the Book of John so far?