

## 65. Jesus Said He Revealed the Glory of the Father

In our last topic, we saw that Jesus wanted to help His disciples learn to experience the peace of God in their lives. That peace was possible because of the fact that Jesus has overcome the world. We also want to help our physical and spiritual children learn to experience this same peace. In our topic today, we are going to see that Jesus had finished His discussion with His disciples and began His prayer to the Father.

Jesus had spent many hours sharing with His disciples that last night before He went to the cross. In this chapter, we see that Jesus also wanted to spend time with the Father to prepare for the separation the next day when all of our sins would be placed on Him. John 17:1-3 says, “Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: ‘Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.’” Jesus began His prayer by stating that the hour had come when He would die for the sins of the world. This was the most important reason why Jesus had come to this earth, so that He could pay for our sins.

The Father has certainly glorified Jesus because of His death. Every single person that has repented of their sin of unbelief and come to the Father through faith in Jesus has brought glory to Jesus. The fact that the death of Jesus for our sins is the thing that makes it possible for us to have eternal life means that Jesus brought glory to the Father by His obedience. Hebrews 12:2 says, “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Jesus was willing to endure the shame of the cross with joy in order to provide salvation and make it possible for us to receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

Jesus also brought glory to the Father by His choice to go to the cross to pay the penalty for our sin. That was why the Father gave all authority to Jesus. John 3:35 says, “The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand.” Jesus had such joy to do the will of the Father that even as He was just hours from the cross He could look beyond the cross to the fact that the Father had given Him authority over all flesh so that He could give eternal life to all that the Father would draw to Him. In Matthew 28:18, after His resurrection, Jesus said, “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’” Jesus received this authority because He did the will of the Father. Psalm 40:7-8 says, “Then I said, ‘Behold, I come; in the scroll of the book *it is* written of me. I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law *is* within my heart.’” Jesus came to give eternal life to us.

As Jesus prayed, He said that eternal life is to know the Father and the Son whom the Father has sent. The word translated “know” means *to learn and come to a full understanding*. Paul said in Philippians 3:10, “That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.” John wrote in 1 John 3:16, “By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren.” In these verses, we see that that it was truly through the sufferings and death of Jesus that we can

begin to understand the greatness of His love and the love of the Father for us.

Jesus went on to pray in John 17:4-5, “I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.” Jesus had brought glory to the Father throughout the time of His ministry on this earth. As a result, Jesus said that He had finished the work that the Father had given to Him. The word translated “finished” in this verse means *to carry through completely or to bring to an end*. His work of preparing the disciples to carry on the ministry when He returned to heaven was completed. Jesus used another word that is translated “finished” in John 19:30 when He said, “So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’ And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.” This word translated, “It is finished” means *to end or to pay in full*. In just a few hours, Jesus would say that the penalty for sin was paid in full.

Once the disciples were prepared to carry on His work and the penalty for sin had been paid in full, Jesus could then enjoy again the glory that He had with the Father before the world was even created. As a result, Jesus was filled with joy for the fact that He would then return to the Father and take again the glory that He had laid aside when He came to this earth. This was the glory that John 12:41 says that Isaiah had seen when that verse says, “These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.” Isaiah described that glory in Isaiah 6:1-3 where we read, “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!’” This is the glory that we will also see when we enter heaven and see Jesus face to face.

Then, Jesus began to pray for the disciples that He had trained to carry the Gospel to the world when He returned to heaven. John 17:6-8 says, “I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.” The word translated “manifested” means *to make visible or known what has been hidden*.

Here, we see that Jesus had revealed the Father to the disciples. In fact, Jesus had answered the question of Philip earlier that evening in John 14:8-10, “Philip said to Him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own *authority*; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.’” In these verses, we see that Jesus had told the disciples that to see Him was to see the Father.

Jesus went on to explain that the Father had given Him these disciples. Ephesians 1:3-4 explains,

“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.” The Father chose all who would believe in Christ before He ever created the world. Jesus said that the disciples had belonged to the Father. It was the Father who gave Jesus the disciples who would be the witnesses of His resurrection.

Jesus said that the disciples had kept the Word of the Father. The word translated “they have kept” means *to attend carefully, to guard or to obey*. In John 14:15, Jesus had said, “If you love Me, keep My commandments.” Then, in John 15:10, Jesus said, “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.” Now, Jesus told the Father that the disciples had kept the word of the Father. Jesus said that the disciples also recognized that all of the things that had been given to Jesus came from the Father. In Matthew 28:18, Jesus said, “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’” This verse reminds us of the fact that the Father is the One who has given Jesus all authority in heaven and on earth.

Jesus also told the Father that He had given the disciples the words that the Father had given to Him. In John 15:15, Jesus had told the disciples, “No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.” Now, we see that Jesus told the Father that He had carried out the will of the Father by passing these words on to the disciples. Jesus also told the Father about the response of the disciples as He had taught them. Jesus told the Father that the disciples had received those words. The word translated “received” means *to take to one’s self*. The eleven disciples had believed the words that Jesus taught them and they would soon begin to teach those same words to others.

Jesus also told the Father that the eleven believed that He had come from the Father. Here, we see that Jesus said that they had made true decisions to believe in Him and follow Him. Peter had spoken for the eleven when He had said in John 6:68-69, “But Simon Peter answered Him, ‘Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.’” Jesus told the Father that the men that He had given Him had believed that the Father had sent Him.

We also want to be able to tell the Father that our physical and spiritual children have believed that He sent Jesus to be the Savior of the world. That means that we want to explain this important fact to them until they can clearly explain it to others. Then, they will be equipped to bring glory to both the Father and Jesus as they share that message with others. May the Lord richly bless you as you help your children learn to explain to others that the Father sent Jesus to be the Savior of the world.