

# In the World But Not of the World

## John 17:11-23

New King James Version (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, <sup>[a]</sup> that they may be one as *We are*. <sup>12</sup> While I was with them in the world, <sup>[b]</sup> I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; <sup>[c]</sup> and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. <sup>13</sup> But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. <sup>14</sup> I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>15</sup> I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup> Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup> As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup> And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

### Jesus Prays for All Believers

<sup>20</sup> “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will <sup>[d]</sup> believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup> 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. <sup>22</sup> And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as *We are one*: <sup>23</sup> 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.

A lot of sad looking people. It seems like for many people life is pretty grim.

Assistant General Overseer

Hand shakers club

Newspaper headlines

T.V. and radio news

An unbeliever might well despair.

Believers, instructed in the Word of God and led by the Holy Spirit can be a source of encouragement in this present evil world.

The world that Jesus left behind was that most of the people were out of joint with God.

The world of the Apostles like our world was motivated by the pride of life. I John 2:16

Into this world the Apostles were sent as unwanted aliens.

They were sent as sheep among wolves. Matthew 10:16

For such a world the Lord Jesus prayed a prayer for not only the first century believers but for the believers of this day.

In this text we find four expressions of concern, four petitions to the Heavenly Father on their behalf but ours as well.

I. That they may be kept v.15

This prayer does not offer an immediate delivery from their present circumstances.

Their work was not done. They were not to pray “God save me from this trouble, but strengthen me for it.”

This is what Jesus is asking on their behalf.

### **John 17:15**

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<sup>15</sup> I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one.

The prayer of Jesus is more powerful than their fears.

They were to be “kept from the evil one.”

They were not promised a calm passage but a safe landing.

There said to be 365 “for nots” in the Bible.

These are addressed to the believers.

For the unbelieving there is no such comfort.

### **Psalm 119:165**

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<sup>165</sup> Great peace have those who love Your law,  
And nothing causes them to stumble.

### **Psalm 30:5**

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<sup>5</sup> For His anger *is but for* a moment,  
His favor *is for* life;  
Weeping may endure for a night,  
But joy *comes* in the morning.

### **Isaiah 43:2**

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<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I *will be* with you;  
And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you.  
When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned,  
Nor shall the flame scorch you.

The prayer of the lord Jesus is fulfilled.

## **John 17:24**

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<sup>24</sup> “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.

The Lord Jesus has prayed for us and continues to do so.

## **Hebrews 7:25**

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<sup>25</sup> Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

II. That they may be sanctified.

v.17 Sanctify them through Your truth .

“Sanctify” to make holy; to purify from sin; to separate; to set apart for divine use.

## **Titus 2:14**

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<sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

## **1 Peter 1:15**

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<sup>15</sup> but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct

## **Romans 12:1**

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### **Romans 12**

#### **Living Sacrifices to God**

<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.

The terms “holiness, saint” and “sanctify” are derived from the same Greek root signifying, “separation.”

## **2 Corinthians 6:17-18**

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<sup>17</sup> *Therefore*

*“ Come out from among them  
And be separate, says the Lord.  
Do not touch what is unclean,  
And I will receive you.”<sup>[a]</sup>*

<sup>18</sup> *“ I will be a Father to you,  
And you shall be My sons and daughters,  
Says the LORD Almighty.”<sup>[b]</sup>*

## **Philippians 2:15**

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<sup>15</sup> that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

To live a sanctified life in this present evil world requires us to have sharp discernment and deep convictions which is the mark of true discipleship.

III. That they may be united.

v.22 “That they may be one as we are one.”

Love for the savior has been likened unto a magnet. The nearer the parts are to the magnet the nearer they are to one another.

### **Romans 8:16-17**

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<sup>16</sup> The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup> and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

### **Psalm 133:1**

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### **Psalm 133**

**A Song of Ascents. Of David.**

<sup>1</sup> Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*  
For brethren to dwell together in unity!

## At Pentecost

### **Acts 2:1**

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### **Acts 2**

**Coming of the Holy Spirit**

<sup>1</sup> When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord<sup>[a]</sup> in one place.

Unity was displayed by the worlds largest and smallest electric clocks. Side by side. Size made no difference. The unity of motivation meant everything.

Quote: *Agree to differ: resolve to love: unite to serve.*

### **John 13:35**

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<sup>35</sup> By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

IV. That they may be perfected.

v.23 “That they may be made perfect.”

### **Matthew 5:48**

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<sup>48</sup> Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

### **Hebrews 12:1**

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### **Hebrews 12**

#### **The Race of Faith**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

It took God only a short time to get Israel out of Egypt, but it took 40 years of wandering in the desert to get Egypt out of Israel.

## **2 Peter 3:17-18**

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<sup>17</sup> You therefore, beloved, since you know *this* beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; <sup>18</sup> but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To Him *be* the glory both now and forever. Amen.

## **1 John 3:2**

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<sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

One preacher said “I would enjoy the ministry if it wasn’t for the people.”

The trouble with the church is that it is made up of people.

## **2 Timothy 3:16-17**

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<sup>16</sup> All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The disciples were in the world but not of the world. So are we.

We are kept- sanctified.

United- perfected.