

## John 17:9-17

**John 17:9-11** *“(9) I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. (10) And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. (11) And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.”*

A. Jesus prayed for His disciples (**Luke 22:31-32**, **John 14:16**, and **John 16:24-27**).

1. First, let it be made clear that Jesus certainly cares about people of the world in that He wants them to be saved (**Matthew 9:13**, **Matthew 20:28**, **John 1:29**, **John 8:12**, and **I Timothy 1:15**).
2. Having said that, it should be no surprise that He would say that His prayer in this chapter is for the disciples rather than the world (**Jeremiah 7:12-16**, **Jeremiah 11:11-14**, and **Jeremiah 14:10-12**; cf. **Proverbs 28:9**).
3. Jesus prayed for the disciples because those whom belong to Him also belong to the Father (**I Corinthians 3:21-23**, **I John 1:3**, and **II John 9**).

B. As Jesus was preparing to leave the world (**John 13:1-3** and **John 16:28**), He was mindful that He was leaving His disciples behind to carry out His work (**Matthew 28:18-20**).

1. Jesus wants the disciples to continue in a relationship with the Father, which occurs through faith (**I Peter 1:5**).
2. Jesus wants the disciples to be united as He and the Father are united (**Psalms 133:1**, **John 17:21**, **I Corinthians 1:10**, **Ephesians 4:1-6**, **Philippians 2:2**, **Philippians 3:16**, and **I Peter 3:8**).

**John 17:12-14** *“(12) While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled. (13) And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. (14) I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”*

A. While Jesus was in the world He kept the disciples in line (**John 10:27-28**) with one exception (**John 6:70-71**).

1. Jesus worked hard to keep the disciples on the right path (**Matthew 8:23-27**, **Matthew 17:14-21**, **Luke 9:51-56**, and **Luke 22:24-32**).
2. Judas erring occurred so that the Scriptures could be fulfilled (**Matthew 26:14-16** and **Zechariah 11:12-13**).

B. Jesus has taught the disciples the words of the Father (**Matthew 13:10-11**, **John 14:10**, and **John 17:8**).

1. The world hates faithful followers of the Lord (**Proverbs 29:27** and **Matthew 10:24-25**).

2. Disciples of Christ are not of the world (**I John 4:1-6**) and this is why we're hated by the world (**John 15:18-21** and **I John 3:12**).

**John 17:15-17** *"(15) I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. (16) They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. (17) Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth."*

A. Jesus did not ask for the disciples to be taken out of the world, for the world needs the truth to be taught (**II Corinthians 4:1-7**, **Philippians 1:21-24**, and **Philippians 2:15**).

1. Jesus asking the Father to keep them from evil involved a miraculous intervention of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 16:4-10** and **Acts 27:17-26**).

a. This was necessary as the Apostles were absolutely necessary for us to be saved (**Ephesians 2:19-20**).

b. This does not mean that Jesus was asking the Father to keep the disciples from committing sin (**Matthew 26:41** and **Colossians 1:21-23**).

c. We can see that God did not keep the disciples from sinning (**John 18:1-14** and **Galatians 2:11-17**).

2. We now know that the "age of miracles" has ceased (**I Corinthians 13:8-13**; cf. **II Timothy 3:15-17**).

B. The disciples are not "of the world" (cf. **I John 2:16**).

1. The world is polluted (**II Peter 2:20**).

2. The world is evil (**I John 5:19**).

3. Friendship with the world makes one an enemy of God (**James 4:4**).

4. The principles of Christ are different than those of the world (**Colossians 2:8**).

C. Jesus wants His disciples to be sanctified [made holy] (**Leviticus 11:44**, **Leviticus 19:2**, **Leviticus 20:7**, **Ephesians 1:4**, and **I Peter 1:13-16**).

1. Obedience to the word of God makes one sanctified (**II Thessalonians 2:13** and **I Peter 1:22-25**).

2. The word of God is the truth (**II Samuel 7:28**, **Psalms 119:142**, **Psalms 119:151**, **Ecclesiastes 12:10**, **Colossians 1:5**, **I Thessalonians 2:13**, and **James 1:18**).