

Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for February 24, 2008

Christ's High Priestly Prayer
John 17:24-26
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Who did Christ pray for in His high priestly prayer?

Christ, in John 17:1-5, prayed for Himself.

Christ, in John 17:6-19, prayed for His eleven disciples.

Christ, in John 17:20-26, prayed for His future disciples.

The epilogue or the conclusion of the high priestly prayer of Christ is found in John 17:24-26.

Christ began this section of Scripture not so much with a formal request but rather with an expression of a personal desire (John 17:24).

Christ, in John 17:24, told His Father that He wanted those whom He had been given, or in other words all true disciples, to be with Him.

Christ told His Father that He wanted His disciples, whom He had been given, to be with Him so that they might see His glory (John 17:5).

Today Jesus is sitting at the right hand of the throne of God in His regal splendor waiting for that time when we will be able to share with Him the joy of His exaltation, not simply by faith but by sight.

The glory that Christ desires for us to see when we are with Him in heaven is the glory that was given to Him by His Father in eternity past as an expression of His love (John 17:24).

Our hope, as the disciples of Christ, of one day being with Christ and seeing His unveiled glory, is very much based on His Father's love for Him.

When Christ addressed His Father as "O righteous Father" in John 17:25 He expressed His complete confidence in His righteous judgments.

Jesus, in John 17:25, told His Father that the world did not know Him but even though the world did not know Him, Jesus made it very clear that He knew Him and His disciples knew Him.

Christ's continuing work of making His Father known to His disciples will expand their knowledge of His Father's love for Him and therefore for them.

Christ has always been and will always be loved by His Father and because we have been joined to Christ and Christ is now in us, the love of God for His Son is now in us, eternally linked to us.

May God give us the grace to know that God's love for His Son assures us that one day we will be with Christ in heaven basking in the glory of His radiance.