

RUSSELL SANDERS

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JOHN 17 – OUR LORD’S PRAYER

LESSON 1 V. 1

Prayer is not just important, it is vital. That is why Jesus gave his disciples a model to follow. It is found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:2-4. Church tradition has erroneously labeled it **“the Lord’s Prayer.”** Since it is our model to follow, it would be more accurate to call it **“The Believer’s Prayer”** since it was for us.

The true “Lord’s Prayer” is found in John 17. This was HIS prayer to the Father. It was the earnest of His heart. It seems that nobody preaches or teaches on our Lord’s prayer, but many teach on The Believer’s Prayer, although they call it by its’ traditional name given to it by the early Roman church.

Today we shall start a series of lessons on the true Lord’s Prayer in John 17. We will go verse by verse because there is so much in it for us to learn. It actually contains the deepest and clearest teaching on the relationship of the believer to the Son, and the Son to the Father. It is truly exciting when we come to understand this.

Verse 1 says that Jesus, with the disciples being present, lifted up His eyes to heaven and said, **“Father the hour is come.”** He knew the Father’s redemptive plan. He knew He had to this point fulfilled all Messianic prophecy. He knew it was now that the time (the hour) had arrived when His path to the cross (traditionally called The Passion of Christ) must begin. It was immediately after this prayer that He went to the Garden of Gethsemane where He was taken captive.

“Father.... glorify Thy Son (so) that thy Son also may glorify thee.”

- Glorify: to give glory; to make glorious; to praise, honor; worship; to make more beautiful or splendid; to exalt to the glory of heaven.
- Glory: great praise and honor given to someone; something that brings praise and honor; adoring praise and thanksgiving; radiant beauty; brightness; magnificence; splendor.

The glory of God exceeds the above dictionary definitions for where the glory of God dwells, everything is in perfection. All is “shalom,” peace, wholeness, nothing broken and nothing missing. Where His glory dwells, there can be no sin.

Jesus glorified Father God, who in turn has glorified the Son. Philippians 2:9-11 declares of Jesus, **“Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven, in earth, and under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”** There is no greater name over heaven or earth or hell than the name of Jesus.