

Spiritual Warfare

Jesus Prayed for Us to Be Kept Safe from the Evil One

Sunday, July 25, 2010

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Message Truth:

In His Model Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray for protection from the evil one. In His High Priestly Prayer, Jesus prayed for us to be protected from the evil one for the purpose of our maintaining unity after the pattern of the Father and the Son. In this High Priestly Prayer Jesus also prayed for spiritual outcomes, as well as for future reality. Today we will examine the spiritual protection and unity aspects of His prayer and use them as a model for our spiritual warfare praying. Each of us are constantly under attack from the evil one. It is time that we realize and acknowledge this and come together and battle these forces of hell. Jesus' blood was shed for everyone, the testimony of Scripture is true, so for what are we waiting?! I yearn for our church family to be prepared to take on and defeat the enemy. This is the necessary first step for us to make an eternal and temporal impact in our community.

Message Text:

⁶ I have revealed you to **those whom you gave me out of the world**. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. ⁹ I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰ All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. ¹¹ I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to

you. **Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name -- the name you gave me -- so that they may be one as we are one.** ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹³ "I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. ¹⁴ I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. ¹⁵ **My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one.** ¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. ¹⁷ Sanctify (set apart for sacred use or make holy) them by the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. ²⁰ My prayer is not for them alone. **I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,** ²¹ **that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.** May they also be in us **so that the world may believe that you have sent me.** ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³ I in them and you in me. **May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.** ²⁴ Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. John 17:6-24

① Jesus understood _____.

¹² For our struggle is **not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.**

Ephesians 6:12

Some in the church have identified this to mean that the pastors are the enemy. Satan has dulled the axe head of many with such a strategy.

② Jesus used the _____.

What is God's Name?

¹³ Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" ¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation. Exodus 3:13-15

③ Jesus prayed for the purpose of _____.

The power of unity:

1. Sustaining unity and love for each other is the mark the world sees.

³⁴ A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

2. Unity of thought and purpose gives the church power, a synergistic effect.

④ Jesus revealed the pattern for unity in the family _____.

⑤ Jesus prayed this for the Church _____.

Has Jesus' prayer been answered for you?

What would Jesus do? Would Jesus forgive me if I had said or done what _____ has said or done to me? Not only would He, but He already has. We call it grace.

What would the Holy Spirit do? Would the Holy Spirit tell me I had offended Him so that I could ask forgiveness? Not only would He, He already has. We call it conviction.

So, I should tell _____ what he/she has done to hurt me so that _____ can ask forgiveness.

What would the Father do? Would the Father let me rejoin the family if I had hurt Him and asked Him to forgive me? Not only would He, He already has. We call it salvation.

Would the Father expect me to forgive _____ if he/she asked me to forgive them?

⁶ But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Matthew 18:6