

Jesus' prayer for unity

John 17:20-26

I. Jesus prays for the future church John 17:20

20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

A. Jesus is confident in his investment of his disciples.

B. Jesus prayed for us

C. Jesus prayed for the power of the message of the Gospel.

II. Jesus prays for the unity of the future church John 17:21-23

A. Unity for the purpose of witnessing (21)

21 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.

B. Unity will come when we see God's glory (22)

22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:

C. Unity is manifested through love (23)

23 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.

III. Jesus prays for that eternal unity with him John 17:24-26

A. Jesus prays for us to be united with him (24)

24 "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.

B. Jesus' desire is to know him and his love. (25,26)

25 O righteous Father! The world has not known You, but I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me. 26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

Conclusion

1. Jesus prays for the gospel expansion of the future church.
2. Jesus prays for the unity of the future church.
3. Jesus prays for the reunion of the future church.