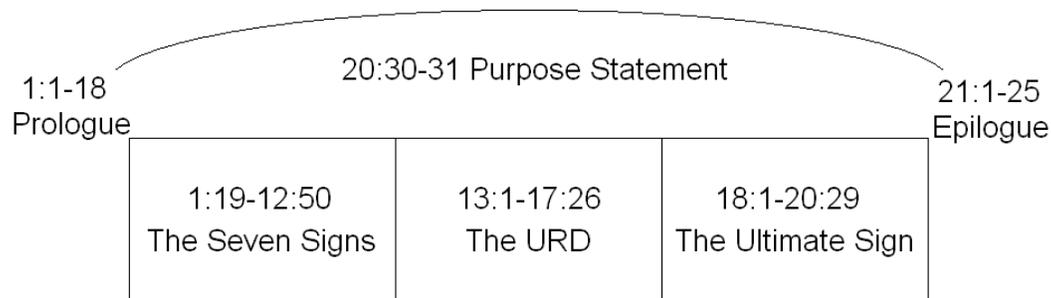


# John 17:20-26

## Christian Unity is a Fact That Should Be Celebrated and Manifested



## John 13-17 The Upper Room Discourse

PATTERN for Fellowship with Christ 13:1-13:30

PRINCIPLES for Fellowship with Christ 13:31-16:33

PRAYER for/about Fellowship with Christ 17:1-17:26

### Pattern for Fellowship 13:1-13:30

Prediction of Peter's Denial 13:31-38

Promise of Heavenly Provision by Jesus 14:1-14

Promise of the Holy Spirit 14:15-26

Dangers of the World 14:27-31

### *The KEY to Fellowship: Abiding in Christ 15:1-17*

Dangers of the World 15:18-16:4

Promise of the Holy Spirit 16:5-15

Promise of Heavenly Promotion for Jesus 16:16-28

Prediction of the Disciples Denial 16:29-33

### Prayer for Fellowship 17:1-26

# **John 17 = The Real Lord's Prayer**

## **Completing the Upper Room Discourse**

Jesus Prays for Himself v1-5  
Jesus Prays for the Apostles v6-19  
Jesus Prays for Us (and All Other Believers) v20-26

### **Today: John 17:20-26**

#### **Jesus Prays for Us (and All Other Believers)**

Who Jesus Is Praying For v20  
What Jesus is Praying For v21-24  
How Jesus' Prayer Is Answered v25-26

### **Who Jesus Is Praying For v20**

#### **Those Who Will Believe in Him through the Word of the Apostles**

I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who [will] believe in Me through their word...i.e. Jack Smith, Jean Schalit and Mighty Max B

#### **The ABC's of Spirituality are B and A**

**B**elieve in Christ: receive Eternal Life

**A**bide in Christ: proceed in Eternal Life

Apostolic Succession: NO      Succession of Apostolic Truth: YES  
Through 1: Inspiration of and 2: Preservation of NT Scripture

### **What Jesus is Praying For v21-24**

#### **1: Personal Unity on Earth Among Believers in Him v21-23**

that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

<sup>22</sup> The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; <sup>23</sup> I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

No two individual believers agree on absolutely everything; but by (biblical) definition all of us agree on the main thing: centering on Who Christ Is, What He Did, What He Will Do (1 Cor 15:1-4; 1 Jn 5:1-5; Acts 1:11)

## **2: Personal Union in Heaven for Believers with Him v24**

Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

This is the prayer of Jesus (> Jabez) and it is not new: “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.” John 6:40

## **How Jesus’ Prayer Is Answered v25-26**

### **Through the United/Foundational, Ongoing Ministry of the Apostles**

O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; <sup>26</sup> and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.

### **The Apostles and Us (Definitely the Same But Also Very Different)**

1: Same Rights But Different Roles

2: Same Savior But Different Settings/Functions

They = the Human Foundation of the Church (Christ as the Cornerstone)

We = Function Accordingly as “Living Stones” of the Church/church

## **Take This To Heart**

Christian Unity is a Fact  
That Should Celebrated and Manifested

### **The General Rule**

Rather than vilifying other believers/with whom we disagree on secondary issues-we should validate them by focusing on the majors/the things on which we DO agree.

### **Certain Specific Instances**

If/When we must disagree we should do so with grace/finesse. We should do so discretely and respectfully. AND we must be mindful of how unbelievers might take/mistake our critique of other believers.