The Portrait—Part 47

July 28/29, 2012

John 17:11-26

FOLLOWING THE MESSAGE

- 1) 17:11 In the face of His absence, Jesus asked the Father to take up the role of protector. That request was all-encompassing: keeping from falling away, from evil doctrines, from being overcome by sorrow, or in tribulation and suffering, keeping them in life and in death.
- 2) 17:13 Understanding the Father's protection and Christ's intercession inevitably produces joy in the hearts of those who belong to Him.
- 3) 17:14 We can be 'overcome' when we do not look into the Word of God and allow it to enlighten us, to enable us, and to encourage us.
- 4) 17:15 Believers are permitted neither the luxury of compromise with a world that is intrinsically evil, nor the safety of disengagement.
- 5) 17:17 In practical terms, no one can be sanctified, or set apart, for the Lord's use without learning to think God's thoughts, without learning to live in conformity with the Word He has given.
- 6) 17:18 The purpose of the 'sanctification' of His followers is that Jesus Himself sends us.
- 7) 17:20-23 The exhibition of genuine biblical love among believers testifies that we are Jesus' own. This is so compelling, so unworldly, that it has the capacity to cause the world to know Jesus.
- 8) 17:20 Jesus Christ, as our great High Priest, began His work of intercession for us with this request 2,000 years ago. It continues to this day (Hebrews 7:25).
- 9) 17:22 Despite denominational differences, all true Christians are spiritually united by our belief that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, in Christ alone, and in our commitment to the absolute authority of Scripture.
- 10) How does spiritual unity show itself in practice? (Philippians 2:2)
 - · Being of the same mind
 - Maintaining the same love
 - · Being united in spirit
 - Being intent on one purpose
- 11) The church's unity is the foundation of its evangelism; it demonstrates that Christ is the Savior who transforms lives.

Ephesians 4:4-6 lists seven features of Holy Spirit-created unity:

- There is "one body," the body of Christ, which is comprised of all believers since the church's inception on the day of Pentecost
- 2.) There is "one Spirit," the Holy Spirit, apart from whom no one can believe in Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 12:3)
- 3.) There is "one hope," -the promised eternal inheritance guaranteed to every believer by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13–14)
- 4.) There is "one Lord," Jesus Christ, who is the head of the body (Colossians 1:18)
- 5.) There is "one faith," the "faith which was once for all handed down to the saints" (Jude 3)
- 6.) There is "one baptism" the believer's public confession of faith in Jesus Christ
- 7.) There is "one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all" -The one true God

GREEK WORDS USED THIS WEEK

Tēreō (tay-reh'-o) to guard (from loss or injury by keeping the eye upon)

Phylassō (foo-las'-so) to watch, be on guard (literal); to preserve:-beware

Hagiazō (hag-ee-ad'-zo) :- to separate, to set apart; to make holy, purify or consecrate