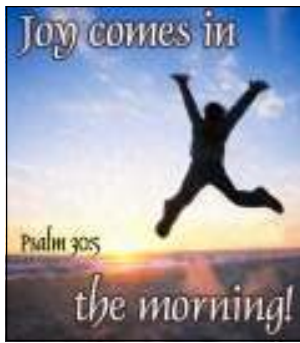


The Real Lord's Prayer: John 17  
**Jesus Prays for Joyful Oneness**



**When Joy and Unity  
Are Under Attack**

If Satan can destroy our 'unity' and 'joy' in Jesus he will render our witness to the world ineffective. Without the intercession of Jesus we would be doomed!

**Introduction:** It should not surprise us that Satan would attempt to interfere with Christ's primary mission on earth. He tempted Jesus in the wilderness (*Luke 4*), used Peter to question the will of God (*Matt 16:23*), and Judas to betray Him. The enemy attacked both **Peter** and **Judas**—one was an overcomer, one was lost forever. This is the backdrop to Jesus' prayer for unity and joy!

**A. Jesus Prays for our Unity John 17:11-12**

**The problems of unity:** Even among the 12 disciples there was a break in the unity. The enemy will do just about anything to break the unity of the church and God's people.

1. **Kept By God:** The word keep in vs :11 and :12b means to 'preserve' or 'sustain' while the second 'kept' in :12b means to 'guard' or 'fortify.'
2. **Kept by the Name:** 'Name' here is both 'familial' and authoritative and identifies us as part of the family of God.
3. **Lost for NOT keeping:** In vs John 17:6 Jesus says, "...and they have kept my word." The word 'kept' in that verse can mean 'keeping the eye upon.' It is clear that Judas **did not** keep his eye on the Word and now Jesus makes it clear that he was lost.
4. **Scripture fulfilled:** Rather than find a specific passage that was fulfilled—this means the over all fulfillment of the prophetic word of the coming Messiah. Jesus knew (had foreknowledge) that Judas would betray him John 6:70-71. However, having foreknowledge does not mean that God foreordained or forced Judas to betray Jesus. **See note 1**
5. **The price of unity:** Unity can come through 'oneness' or 'separation.' (*Judas broke the unity until he left.*)

**B. Jesus Prayers for our Joy John 17:13-16**

**Biblical joy is rooted in God's Word and experienced through obeying His Word.**

1. **Jesus speaks IN the world:** These words and this prayer is for us. *17:13*
2. **Our joy is NOT in the world:** It is in the Word that was given to us by Jesus. *17:14*
3. **We have a mission in the world:** That is why Jesus does NOT pray that we should be removed from the world. *17:15*
4. **We have an adversary in the world:** And we pray, "Do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one." *Matt 6:13 (The Disciple's Prayer)*
5. **Our joy is in Jesus NOT in the world:** "Dear friends, I warn you as 'temporary residents and foreigners' to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls." *I Peter 2:11 (NLT)*

John 17:11-16 (NKJV)

**:11** Now I am no longer in the world, **but these are in the world**, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through **Your name** those whom You have given Me, **that they may be one as We are.**

**:12** While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.

**:13** But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

**:14** I have given them **Your word**; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

**:15** I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, **but that You should keep them from the evil one.**

**:16** They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

**Judas**

Judas...was one of those given by the Father, chosen by Jesus, heard the preaching of Jesus, went with the 12 and cast out demons and saw miracles and was trusted with the money.

However...He also, of his own free will sinned and rejected Jesus and was filled with Satan and then betrayed Jesus.

**In John 17:11-16 Jesus is praying that this WILL NOT happen to us.**