

# YESHUA'S PRAYER FOR TALMIDIM

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JOHN 17: 6 - 19

## Yeshua Prays for His Disciples

6 "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. 7 Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. 8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received *them*, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

9 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. 10 And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. 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. 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

In this second section, verses 6-19, Yeshua prays for the *living disciples*.

This second section is also **subdivided into two parts**, though it is not easy to classify them.

In verses 6 to 12 the fundamental reason is brought out as to **why the Savior prays for His disciples and not for the world—because of their relation to Himself**.

Out of this grows the petition for **their preservation**—the essence of all intercession.

In verses 13 to 19 the Lord prays for His disciples that will be left here in the world, presenting their several needs.

This is an Analysis of this second section of **John 17: verses 6—12**

1. What Yeshua had done for Yahweh's elect, verse 6.
2. The response of the elect, verses 6, 7.
3. The consequent assurance of the elect, verse 8.
4. The elect alone prayed for by the Mediator, verse 9.
5. Reasons why Yeshua prayed for the elect, verses 9-11.
6. Yeshua praying for their preservation and unity verse 11.
7. Yeshua's accompanying plea, verse 12.

While this prayer resolves itself into three divisions there is a most striking apparent *unity* about it.

**The substance of Yeshua's prayer for Himself is:** Place Me in circumstances in which I may glorify Thee in the salvation of men.

**The substance of His prayer for the disciples is:** Fit them for glorifying Thee in promoting the salvation of men, through prosecuting the work to which I have called them as My instrumental agents.

**The substance of His prayer for the whole company of the redeemed** (John 17:20-26) is: Bring them to entire conformity to Yourself in **mind, will** and **enjoyment**, that You may be glorified to the maximum by their being saved.

Thus the glory of the Father is the paramount consideration from the beginning to the end.

A close study of the details will fully bear this out.

**"The great blessing which Yeshua asks for the apostles is that they may be one, as the Father and the Son are one; that is, that they may be united with Them as to mind and will, and aim and operation in the great work of glorifying Yahweh in the salvation of men.**

**That is the ultimate object of His desire in reference to them; the other petitions are for what is necessary in order to accomplish this.**

The blessings necessary to the obtaining of this blessing are **two**:

First, **Conservation**—‘Keep them through, or in, or in reference to, your own name’; ‘Keep them from the evil one or the evil thing that is in the world, that they may be one, as we are one.’

Then, second, **Consecration**—‘Sanctify them through, or in reference to, your own name’; all the rest is occupied with pleadings—most powerful and appropriate pleadings”

While it is true that in John 17:6 to 19 Yeshua is praying directly and immediately for His apostles, it is clear to us that they are here viewed, as in the preceding chapters, in a representative character.

Were this not the case, there would be *no place* at all in this prayer for all the others of His believing disciples at that time, for John 17:20 speaks only of those who were to believe at a later date.

The careful student will note that Yeshua was most particular to *describe* the ones He here intercedes for in terms which are common to all believers.

It is with this understanding that we shall now proceed with our study.

**"I have manifested your name unto the men which you gave me out of the world: your's they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word" (John 17:6).**

Four things are to be carefully noted in this and the following verses:

1. the persons for whom Yeshua intercedes;
2. the *characters* in which they are presented;
3. the *petitions* offered on their behalf;
4. and the *particular* pleas by which each separate petition is urged.

It is to be noted that the Lord did not begin by asking for the blessing of His disciples; rather, He first describes the ones he was about to pray for:

in John 17:6 to 10 it is presentation,

in John 17:11 and 12 it is supplication.

It is beautiful to see that as the Savior here comes before the Father as intercessor, **He presents "His own" along with Himself.**

It reminds us of His word, spoken long before by the spirit of prophecy, "Behold I and the children whom the Lord hath given me" (Isa. 8:18, quoted in Hebrews 2:13).

. Three things were mentioned here by Yeshua to recommend to the Father these objects of His petition:

1. they were acquainted with the Father's name;
2. they were the subjects of His distinguishing grace;
3. they were obedient to His will.

Thus Yeshua spoke of what *He had done*, what *the Father* had done, and what *the disciples* had done.

"I have manifested your name unto the men which you gave me out of the world."

Herein Yeshua fulfilled the prophecy, "I will *declare thy name* unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee" (Ps. 22:22).

To make known the Father's name was to reveal Him, manifest His character, display His perfections.

"Yours they were, and you gave them to me."

All creatures belong to the Father by creation (Heb. 12:9), but this is not what is here in view.

Yeshua is speaking of a special group that had been given to Him.

The reference, then, is to the sovereign election of Yahweh, whereby He chose a definite number to be His "peculiar people" —His in a peculiar or special way.

These were *eternally* His: "chosen in Messiah before the foundation of the world" (Eph. 1:4); and by the immutability of His purpose of grace from John 11:29, they are *always* His.

This plea was made by Yeshua to the Father not only for the urging of the petition which followed, but for the *comfort* of the disciples.

They might be despised by some of Israel's leaders, hated by men in general, the special objects of Satan's enmity; yet were they the peculiar favorites of Yahweh.

But though everything is subordinated by Yeshua to the Divine glory, yet the blessings asked for the apostles and the whole company of the redeemed are viewed not only in reference to the glory of the Father directly, but to the glory of the Son, in whom and by whom the Father was to be glorified.

The plea for blessing them is that **"I am glorified in them"** (John 17:10), and the ultimate design is **"that they may behold my glory"** (John 17:24).

**Without question it is a tragic thing to be Yahweh's creation and not know Him and be separated from His love and grace.**

Further, how pitiful to live one's life and have no purpose to life, but to live until we die and no matter how successful or how much a failure....to end the same way.....to die and leave it all.

That is the life lived by those that have not believed,

repented of their sins

and received Messiah Yeshua as their savior.

One could have an empire greater than Bill Gates of Microsoft....

devote one's life to making money and producing products....

but in reality...there is no real lasting purpose to a life lived that way.

The derelict sleeping in the street in a cardboard box or the billionaire, if they are lost, they are separated from Yahweh and have no purpose for their lives.

**Yahweh did not create us in vain.**

He has a purpose for each one here in this room....

and it is an eternal purpose on which death has no affect.

**Death for the Believer is only a door that begins eternity.**

**Many people today, deep down inside, who do not live their lives for Yeshua, know their lives have no purpose....**

In John 17, we see many insights into Yahweh's mind about His plan for us.

**It has a message for the lost as well as for those who are saved.**

1. It is possible to be quite selfish about salvation and to think of it only in terms of the blessing it is and the benefits one receives from Messiah.
2. However, there is another side of salvation that is equally important and vital for one to understand.

**The other side of salvation is of what benefit we are to Messiah Yeshua?**

At first this truth may seem hard to understand, however the Bible teaches us that in truth the believer is

a. actually a present from Yahweh to Messiah Yeshua.

**"I have manifested your name unto the men which you gave me out of the world: yours they were, and you gave them to me; and they have kept your word " (John 17:6).**

This gives us a small insight into Yahweh's purpose for saving us.

Note Verse 11, **". . .keep-- through your own name-- those whom you have given me, that they may be one, as we are."**

b. Although, Yahweh is completely sovereign and has all power and all things and that we have nothing to offer and that salvation is totally a gift of Yahweh...we are of value because Yahweh has made us such.

3. Most times we think of salvation from the human point of view....yet Yahweh has not left us ignorant concerning His point of view in the matter.

**We see salvation in light of its benefit to us....**

I have never heard a message which showed our benefit to Yahweh.

**Do not be misled or misunderstand.**

**We have nothing to offer** - no value or worth within ourselves.

Yet, Yahweh had imparted unto the believer, salvation, membership in Yahweh's own family, and has given us a purpose for life itself.

To study, meditate and understand these truths will greatly help us to understand what salvation is.

**Salvation is much more than**

- (1) forgiveness of sin,
- (2) cleansing of the heart,
- (3) the impartation of the new nature and
- (4) the blessed hope of the future.

**It is of being a vital part of Yahweh's plan and purpose...that gives us value.**

**This is not the self-esteem we hear so much about today.**

**Self-esteem is often based in pride.**

Yahweh says in Isa. 64:6, that man's righteousness is but filthy rags.

**Man as a sinner has no righteousness and is lost in sin separated from Yahweh.**

However, Yahweh marvelously takes the sinner who will believe and makes him into something that is valuable and precious to Yeshua.

Note John 17:23, ". . .you have loved them, as You have loved me."

We are loved in the same way and to the degree that Yahweh the Father loves Messiah Yeshua.

**This shows how much Yahweh thinks of us and of what value we are to Him.**

**YESHUA'S PRAYER SHOWS US "WHAT" THE BELIEVER MEANS TO HIM!**

4. Lets us look at several facts found in Yeshua's prayer which will help us to understand that there is infinitely more purpose to the Believers life!

## **I. FIRST: THE BELIEVER IS GIVEN TO MESSIAH OUT OF THE WORLD. JOHN 17:6**

**A. Yeshua says that the believer has been given to Him from out of the world.**

1. It is a most difficult thing to understand how that Yahweh loves the sinner

and suffered for us who are so undeserving. We look around us at this lost world and all it's horrible sins. The world is full of individual people that sin.

....what of the doctor who murders the unborn child in its mothers womb, or the mother who has it done or the person who votes for politicians who make it legal.

2. More difficult to understand is that Yeshua considers every believer as Yahweh's gift of love to Him!

**I Marvel at the Grace that provided Yeshua to be my own personal Savior....**

**I marvel more that the Grace of Yahweh also makes me a gift of Yahweh to Messiah Yeshua.**

**B. Without doubt we are un-deserving of Yahweh's Grace.**

Yet, Yahweh's Grace is the transforming power that makes the believer so precious in the sight of Messiah Yeshua..

**His eyes are too pure to behold iniquity and He cannot delight in man's sin.**

He sees in the penitent and trusting sinner what Grace can do and what Grace has made the believer.

This is truly the, "the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints".

**"Now they have known that all things whatsoever you have given me are of you" (John 17:7).**

Yeshua continues to speak in commendatory terms of His disciples.

**"These are wonderful words when we consider the character of the eleven men to whom they were applied.**

**How weak was their faith!**

**How slender their knowledge!**

**How shallow their spiritual attainments!**

**How faint their hearts in the hour of danger!**

**Yes, a very little while after Yeshua spoke these words they all forsook Him and fled, and one of them denied Him with an oath.**

No one, in short, can read the four Gospels with attention and fail to see that never has a great Master had such apparently weak servants as Yeshua had in the eleven apostles.

**Yet these very servants were the men of whom the gracious Messiah speaks here in high and honorable terms.**

**The lesson before us is full of comfort and instruction.**

It is evident that Yahweh sees far more in His believing people than they see in themselves, or than others see in them.

**ILLUS: Judges 6:12, Messiah appeared to Gideon and proclaimed "The Lord is with you...you mighty man of valor!!"**

Gideon at the moment was hiding from the Midianites, threshing a little grain so they would not starve.

**He surely did not appear to be a mighty man of valor and in fact he was not.**

Yahweh however, did not see him as he was, but saw him as what Yahweh could make him to be.

**Gideon brought honor to the Lord in his faithfulness. As he obeyed, Yahweh's will was done.**

The armies of the Midianites that were plaguing Israel was destroyed.

**C. Note Verse 6, 8. "They have kept your word." (V6) ". . .they have received them . . .they have believed that you did send me..." V8).**

This is true of those who are truly saved.

It is not true of those who are not.

**D. ". . .I am glorified in them." (V10).**

**"I pray for them: I pray not for the world; but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine" (John 17:9).**

The world here is a general name for mankind in their fallen state.

There is a "**fashion of this world**" (1 Cor. 7:31), a common mould, according to which the characters of men are formed.

There "**is a course of this world**" (Eph. 2:2), in which all walk, except those who are on the narrow way" which leads unto life.

All who have not been "**transformed by the renewing of their minds**" (Rom. 12:2) are, as a matter of course, "**conformed to this world.**"

**Yeshua did not pray for the unbelieving here.**

**"For whom He is the Propitiation, He is an Advocate; and for whom He died, He makes intercession, and for no others in a spiritual saving way." (Mr. John Gill).**

**"I pray not for the world."**

But how is this to be harmonized with the fact that while He was on the Cross the Savior did pray for His enemies —"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"?

**It is important that we should distinguish between the prayers of Yeshua as the perfect Man and the prayers of Yeshua as Mediator.**

There are several of the Psalms which plainly intimate that Messiah Yeshua prayed for His foes, but this was to show us that as a perfect Man, subject to that holy Torah which requires each one to love his neighbor as himself, He harbored no revenge.

He prayed for the ungodly in answer to His human duty, but not officially as the Mediator.

So He taught His disciples, "Love your enemies, bless them which curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you" (Matthew 5:44).

But here in John 17 Yeshua is seen as the great High Priest, therefore He prays only for "His own."

All that we can say is, it was the *sovereign grace* of the sovereign Elohim who singled us out to be the objects of His distinguishing favors.

Let the world call it *selfishness* in us if they will, but let us express in praise to Yahweh our profoundest gratitude, and seek to live as becomes His elect ones.

Everything a person does is done because of some motivation.

**"For they are yours."**

In the previous verses the Savior had *described the characters* of those for whom He was about to intercede, now He *presents the reasons why* He prayed for them.

The first is, **"for they are yours."**

Though given to the Mediator by grant—both as a reward and as a charge—they are still the Father's;

**that is, He has not relinquished His right and propriety over them.**

As a father who gives his daughter in marriage to another does not lose his fatherly propriety,

So those given to Yeshua are still the Father's **"for *they*"** (in sharp contrast from 'the world') **are yours"** fixes the meaning of **"yours they were"** in John 17:6—"yours" not by creation, but by election.

**"The world" *also* belongs to the Father by creation!**

What a powerful plea was this; the ones for whom Yeshua was about to pray were *the Father's*, therefore, for His own glory and because of His affection for that which belonged to Him, He would keep them.

**"And all mine are yours, and yours are mine" (John 17:10).**

Here is the second motive for His request: the interests of the Father and the Son could not be separated;

What belonged to the one belonged to the other.

Indisputable proof of His absolute Deity;

It is because the Savior is one with the Father that Yeshua and Yahweh have rights and interests that are boundless.

**We have to have a reason for all we do.**

**"And I am glorified in them" (John 17:10).**

This was His third plea.

Since the Son was the supreme Object of the Father's affections, then this was another reason for Him preserving those in whom the Savior was glorified.

What a place for us!

**To be the subjects of this mutual affection of the Father and the Son!**

People do not do things they feel are no benefit to them or that they have no good reason to do.

**A parent takes care of their child because they love them and they love them because they are their own flesh and blood. That is their motivation.**

They might help someone else's child, but their motivation would be from pity and charity.

**Many times, professing believers do not understand their importance to Yahweh and to His plan.**

**Note the verse says Yeshua is glorified in believers.**

Today, think for a moment....what glorifies Yeshua before the world?

Can you think of any way Messiah Yeshua is glorified before the lost and dying world apart from seeing Messiah reflected in the life of a believer?

**Our purpose is to bring Glory to Messiah Yeshua.**

I want to see Yeshua honored before the world.

All true believers should desire the same thing.

**One reason Yahweh saved us was to bring Yeshua the glory He deserves.**

You see, it may be that some who profess Yeshua **do not understand** this vital part of their salvation!

**Question: If a person truly understands and accepts this truth...do you think he would not want to live a holy life before Yahweh?**

## **II. HOW COULD THE BELIEVER BE SO VALUABLE TO YAHWEH?**

A. The value of anything is usually determined by the price one pays for it.

**What may be of little value to one person may be of great value to someone else.**

**B. What are you Worth?**

1. In chemical components it is estimated the human body is worth a little more than five dollars.

2. **Some might say the more one knows or produces the more valuable that person is.**

3. According the World Almanac, the highest paid occupations are, lawyers, airplane pilots, aerospace engineers, physicians, financial managers, chemical engineers, personnel managers, stock brokers, education administrator, college professors, electrical engineers, computer specialists, pharmacist and economists. Or sports stars and movie stars.

**Consider what skills you have. What by the world standards are you worth? In time people age and their skills diminish making them less valuable.**

Sometimes skills are superseded. Firemen on trains, linotype operators, keypunch operators, stage coach drivers, etc.

### **C. How valuable are you to Yahweh???**

**John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep."**

**"Keep through your own name those whom you have given me."**

This brings out the *value* *Yeshua* sets upon us and the deep *interest* He has in us!

About to return to the Father on high, He asks the Father that He will preserve those so dear to His heart, those for whom He bled and died.
--

He hands them over to the care of the very One who had first given them to Him.

**It was as though He said: I know the Father's heart!**

He will take good care of them!

**And why was it, why is it, that we *are* so highly esteemed by Yeshua?**

Clearly not for any excellency which there is, intrinsically, in us.

The answer must be, **Because we are the Father's love gift to the Son.**

It is striking to observe that just **seven** times in this chapter Yeshua speaks of those whom the Father had "given" Him—see verses 2, 6 (twice) 9, 11, 12, 24.

**In John 3:16 we learn of the Father's love to **us**; here in John 17 we behold the Father's love to **Yeshua**.**

Yahweh so loved the world as to give His only begotten Son; and He so loved His Son as to give Him a people who, conformed to His image, shall through all eternity, show forth His praises.

**A Marvelous fact!**

**We are the Fathers love gift to His Son.**

Who then can estimate the value which Yeshua puts upon us!

The *worth* of a gift depends upon the one who made it; its intrinsic value may be paltry, but when made by a loved one it is highly prized for *his* sake.

So we, utterly unworthy in ourselves, are ever regarded by Yeshua in all the inestimable worth of that love of the Father which gave us to Him!

**Thus does the eye of our great High Priest ever look upon us with affection and delight.**

How this ought to endear Him to our hearts!

Little wonder then, in view of what has just been before us, that the *first* thing the Savior asked for on behalf of those given to Him by the Father was their preservation.

**He was leaving them in a hostile world.**

Gal. 2:20 "I am crucified with Yeshua: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Messiah lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of Yahweh, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

1. He thought you were worth his dying for.
2. He thought you were worth, his suffering for your sin.
3. Are you important to Yeshua??????

The Bible says that Yahweh is Love. The very nature of Yahweh is love....love for the sinner....

**Who once and if he trusts in Yeshua becomes a great treasure.**

Yeshua paid the penalty for all....that those who believe would be saved.

**Conclusion:**

No matter who you are...you are Yahweh's creation.

**No matter what you have done...you are a sinner either small or great.**

**No matter what.....Yeshua suffered every man's sin on earth...that you might have eternal life.**

**You are most valuable to Him...you see the worth of anything is determined by what someone is willing to pay for it.**

**To the unsaved....Yahweh is offering salvation.**

**He is offering a place in His presence, most of all....He is offering to change you into something totally incomprehensible....something of great value to Yahweh.**

**To the professing believer....Is there a greater motivation to live and totally commit one's life to Yeshua than to understand the great love of Yahweh for the sinner?**

**Of the Love of Yahweh that will take the worthless sinner we are and make of us something wonderful and of great value to Yahweh.**

**Have you ever thought of yourself as a gift of Yahweh to Yeshua ....for the purpose of bringing honor to Him.**

**We have a choice...we can bring honor to Yeshua or dishonor. What will it be?**

**Would you receive Messiah Yeshua, now by faith.**

**Would you become a great treasure to him...or waste and throw away the great thing He did for you?**