



What Jesus is Doing Now

John 16:33-17:1, 13-24

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Bijan Mirtolooi

John 16:33-17:1, 13-24

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:

“Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you... I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. My prayer is not for them alone. I

pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.”

“Meanwhile, where is God? This is one of the most disquieting symptoms [of suffering on your spiritual life]. When you are happy, so happy that you have no sense of needing him...if you turn to him you will be — or so it feels — welcomed with open arms. But go to him when your need is desperate, when all other help is vain, and what do you find? A door slammed in your face...Why is he so present a commander in our time of prosperity and so very absent a help in time of trouble?

...It's not that I am in much danger of ceasing to believe in God. The real danger is in coming to believe such dreadful things about him. The conclusion I dread is not, ‘So there’s no God after all,’ but rather, ‘So this is what God is really like. Deceive yourself no longer.’”

- C.S. Lewis, *A Grief Observed*

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Romans 8:34

Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

“The redemption accomplished by Jesus, no matter how long and fervently I believe it, no matter how eloquently it’s remembered and reimagined, just never seems to feel finished.”

- Tyler Staton

“When a man is going on a long journey, he will find time on the eve of his departure for a quiet talk with his family, and—if he is a man of God—will end by commending to God not only himself and his journey, but also the family whom he leaves behind. Very surely will this be so if his journey is the last journey.”

- Leslie Newbigin

John 17:15

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world, but that you protect them from the evil one.

John 17:17

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

John 17:21

That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

John 17:13

I say these things while I am still in the world so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.

John 16:20-22

Very truly I tell you, you will weep and mourn while the world rejoices. You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you:

Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

O what peace we often forfeit,
What needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

“We Christians are being prayed for, by a person very good at prayer. We are not on our own. May we relax a bit and come to Jesus’ party.”

- F.D. Bruner

“Not my will, but Yours be done.”