

The Lord's Prayer for Us.

4.

Following the Olivet Discourse with His disciples, because the Lord Jesus, held undisputed claims as to His Father's Deity, prayed: "*Father... glorify Thy Son, that Thy Son may glorify Thee*" John 17:1. **And, prior to the height of His intended mission to shortly follow, the Lord Jesus then prayed for the Glory of the Cross, which would precede the Glory of the Crown!** Note: Only five of the verses were prayers around Him, in contrast to the twenty verses covering **prayers for the Church** (John 17:6-26). His Priestly ministry for His Church is also further prefigured in Revelation chapters 1-3.

The Lord prayed that, in the context of time, the Church would be kept by the Power of God from the pressures of this 'world', the 'flesh' and the constant wiles of the Devil! **In John 17, the Lord's deliberate prayer was not for the world but for His own—His Body—the inclusive Church:** "*I have manifested Thy name unto the men which Thou gave me out of the world: Thine they were, and Thou gave them Me; and they have kept Thy Word*" John 17:6. Praise God that He is interceding for you and me even now!

It is a God-given commission for us to witness to, and pray for, the unconverted. We are also privileged to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ. **The Church is built upon the foundation of His Deity. The Lord Jesus desires that His love, victory and unity be expressed through us among our fellow-believers** and all the verses in John 17 will help us by our further prayerful reading and applying to our life: "**The Lord's Prayer**"!