

9 "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours.

As Jesus prays notice He says, “I do not pray for the world.” This is because the world and its systems, practices, and values hold nothing but hostility toward Jesus and His followers.

“Protect this world so it can keep on consuming people and hating you” No way!

If you’re a follower of Jesus, you belong to Jesus because you belong to God!

You too have been set apart by God on purpose and given to Jesus for a special purpose!

Exodus 33:18-23: And he said, "Please, show me Your glory." 19 Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." 20 But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live." 21 And the Lord said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. 22 So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. 23 Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen." NKJV

John 1:14: So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. NLT

John 17:11: 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.

To this point, Jesus had kept His rag-tag band of Disciples together, secure, and focused being physically with them, but He knows He’s heading back to Heaven soon.

“Father, keep them safe and secure in their salvation and focused on the mission at hand, working together with like mindedness IN the world, spreading My Gospel!”

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.

Jesus describes how He's kept them in the name of the Father. All except one who was never really a disciple because Jesus won't keep someone against their will!

Perdition: means *utter destruction* and refers to the future state of the wicked in final spiritual ruin with the loss of one's soul into eternal damnation.

And the Hebrews used the term *Son* for those whose character is described by the word that follows, and so, referring to Judas, Jesus calls him the "Son of Perdition."

John 3:18-20: 18 "There is no judgment against anyone who believes in him. But anyone who does not believe in him has already been judged for not believing in God's one and only Son. 19 And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil.

Jesus acknowledges Judas will be lost, but neither God nor Jesus caused it. Judas had already made his mind up to deny and betray Jesus. Judas caused Judas to be lost!

Matthew 26:1-5: When Jesus had finished saying all these things, he said to his disciples, 2 "As you know, Passover begins in two days, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be crucified." 3 At that same time the leading priests and elders were meeting at the residence of Caiaphas, the high priest, 4 plotting how to capture Jesus secretly and kill him. 5 "But not during the Passover celebration," they agreed, "or the people may riot."

Matthew 26:14: Then Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve disciples, went to the leading priests 15 and asked, "How much will you pay me to betray Jesus to you?" And they gave him thirty pieces of silver. 16 From that time on, Judas began looking for an opportunity to betray Jesus.

Does God have all power to keep you safe and secure in your salvation and save you? YES!

John 10:27-30: My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, 29 for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else.* No one can snatch them from the Father's hand. 30 The Father and I are one."

Romans 10:9-11: If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by confessing with your mouth that you are saved. NLT

Yet Judas, through his own volition, chose to be an unwitting tool of Satan. Even then, his free acts fit into God's sovereign plan of fulfilling the scriptures concerning Jesus's!

God decided before hand to keep and save everyone who believes in and follows Jesus, but man has the responsibility to choose to believe and follow Him!

In other words, You can't save yourself, but you can lose yourself by not believing in Jesus!

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.

John 1:12-13: But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. 13 They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

Jesus prays for His disciples, those born again, not to be removed from the world, but to be strengthened, sustained, and encouraged not to fall back into the world!

Romans 12:1-2: And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. 2 Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. NLT

1 John 4:4: But you belong to God, my dear children. You have already won a victory over those people, because the Spirit who lives in you is greater than the spirit who lives in the world. NLT

His prayer was so we could engage the world and tell people about His goodness, grace, mercy, love and forgiveness and invite the world to have a relationship with Him and be saved!

Romans 10:14-15: But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? 15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!" NLT

We are to be the hands and feet of Jesus “IN the world” NOT “OF the world” because we are His messengers who bring good news that is “OUT of this world!”

We have a purpose as believers, disciples, and witnesses for Christ Jesus in this world!

Matthew 28:18-20: 18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,* baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." NLT

We have family, friends, and neighbors that are lost and dying because they don't know Jesus. Do you want the best for them? Do you love them? Then tell them how to...

Lesson4Life:

Jesus prayed to compel us to love the lost out of the world and into His arms!