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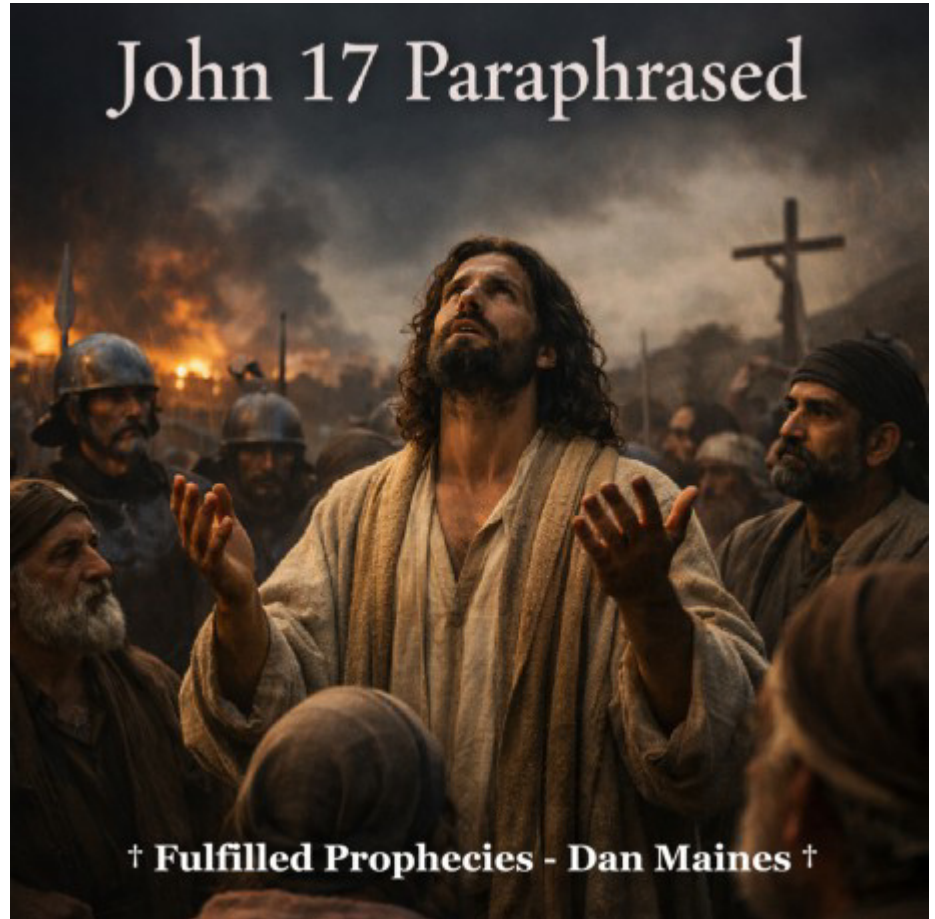
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John 17 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

John 17 Paraphrased

Introduction

† This chapter records Jesus praying before His death, He isn't speaking to the crowd, He's speaking directly to the Father

† The focus is glory, completion, and those given to Him, all within that generation

† You'll see fulfillment language everywhere, not future speculation

John 17:1

Jesus lifted His eyes and said, Father, the hour has come, glorify Your Son so Your Son will glorify You

† The hour wasn't future thousands of years later, it was right then (John 12:23)

† Glory comes through the cross and resurrection, not a delayed kingdom

† This sets the timing for everything that follows

John 17:2

You gave Him authority over all people so He may give life to all You have given Him

† Authority is already given, not waiting to be established

† The focus is on those given, not every individual without distinction

† Life is something actively being given in that present moment

John 17:3

This is eternal life, that they know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You sent

† Eternal life isn't just future existence, it's present knowing

† This destroys the idea of waiting for life later

† Life is relational, not postponed

John 17:4

I glorified You on earth, having finished the work You gave Me to do

† Jesus speaks of completion before the cross is finished, showing certainty

† The mission wasn't incomplete or postponed

† Fulfillment is central, not delay

John 17:5

Now Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory I had with You before the world was

† Christ's preexistence is clearly stated

† Glory is restoration, not something new

† The plan was always established before time

John 17:6

I revealed Your name to the men You gave Me out of the world, they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they've kept Your word

† These are specific men, not an undefined future group

† The disciples were given, not self-appointed

† Keeping the word shows covenant faithfulness

John 17:7

Now they've come to know everything You gave Me is from You

† Knowledge here is recognition of divine origin

† The disciples understood the source of Christ's authority

† This isn't ignorance waiting for future clarity

John 17:8

I gave them the words You gave Me, and they received them and truly understood I came from You

† The message was delivered and received already

† This confirms fulfillment within their lifetime

† Faith came through hearing, not future revelation

John 17:9

I ask on their behalf, I'm not asking for the world, but for those You gave Me, because they are Yours

† This is a specific intercession, not universal

† The distinction between world and chosen is clear

† Covenant focus remains on those given

John 17:10

All things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I've been glorified in them

† Unity between Father and Son is complete

† Glory is already present in the disciples

† This isn't waiting for a future manifestation

John 17:11

I'm no longer in the world, yet they are in the world, and I come to You, keep them in Your name so they may be one just as We are

- † Protection is needed because judgment is near
- † Unity reflects divine unity, not institutional unity
- † This is about preservation through the coming crisis

John 17:12

While I was with them I kept them, none perished except the son of destruction, so Scripture would be fulfilled

- † Judas fulfills prophecy, not random failure
- † Scripture fulfillment is central again
- † Loss was expected, not accidental

John 17:13

Now I come to You, and I speak these things in the world so they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves

- † Joy is something fulfilled, not postponed
- † Fulfillment language dominates again
- † This is present reality, not future hope only

John 17:14

I gave them Your word, and the world hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world

- † Opposition proves separation
- † The disciples already stand apart from the system
- † This reflects covenant division

John 17:15

I'm not asking You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one

- † They remain during tribulation, not removed from it
- † Protection is spiritual, not physical escape
- † This aligns with first-century persecution

John 17:16

They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world

- † Identity is already established
- † This isn't something gained later
- † Separation is spiritual, not geographical

John 17:17

Sanctify them in the truth, Your word is truth

- † Sanctification comes through the word already given
- † Truth is defined by God, not tradition
- † This is ongoing but grounded in what was already delivered

John 17:18

As You sent Me into the world, I also sent them into the world

- † The mission continues through them
- † Apostolic authority is directly given
- † This isn't a distant future commission

John 17:19

For their sake I sanctify Myself, so they themselves may be sanctified in truth

- † Christ sets Himself apart for their benefit
- † Their sanctification is tied to His work
- † This is covenant preparation

John 17:20

I don't ask for these only, but also for those who believe through their word

- † This extends to immediate future believers through the apostles
- † This isn't an open-ended timeline for thousands of years
- † The chain of belief is direct and near

John 17:21

That they may all be one, just as You Father are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so the world may believe You sent Me

- † Unity is a testimony to the world of that time
- † This is visible and functional unity
- † It serves as proof of Christ's mission

John 17:22

The glory You gave Me I've given to them, so they may be one just as We are one

- † Glory is already given, not future only
- † Unity flows from shared glory
- † This shows completed transfer, not delay

John 17:23

I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so the world may know You sent Me and loved them

- † Perfection in unity is the goal within that generation
- † This is about visible fulfillment
- † Love is demonstrated, not abstract

John 17:24

Father, I desire that they also, whom You gave Me, be with Me where I am, so they may see My glory

- † Being with Him is covenantal union
- † This isn't a distant heaven-only concept
- † It's about sharing His revealed glory

John 17:25

Righteous Father, though the world didn't know You, I knew You, and these knew You sent Me

- † The world remained blind
- † The disciples had true knowledge already
- † This reinforces division again

John 17:26

I made Your name known to them and will make it known, so the love You loved Me with may be in them, and I in them

- † Revelation continues through them
- † Love is transferred into them

† Christ dwelling in them shows fulfilled union

Historical References

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews, shows the intense persecution surrounding that generation

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, records early believers understanding these events as fulfilled

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies, affirms apostolic transmission of truth from those same disciples

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata, confirms early understanding of unity and knowledge in Christ

How It Applies To Us Today

† We're not waiting for eternal life, we have it now through knowing Him

† Unity isn't organizational, it's spiritual reality in Christ

† The work is finished, we live in the result, not in expectation of it

† The same truth sanctifies us today, His word hasn't changed

Q & A Appendix

Q: When was the hour Jesus spoke of?

A: It was in that present time leading to the cross (John 12:23)

Q: Is eternal life future or present?

A: It's present through knowing God (John 17:3)

Q: Who was Jesus praying for?

A: Those given to Him and those who would believe through them (John 17:9, 20)

Q: Was unity future or immediate?

A: It was to be realized among them then (John 17:21-22)

Q: Did Jesus complete His work?

A: Yes, He said it was finished and accomplished (John 17:4)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

- † John 17
- † Josephus, Wars of the Jews
- † Irenaeus, Against Heresies
- † Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History
- † Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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