

## John 17:11-19, Christ Prays That His Disciples Will Be Kept

Last Sunday: Christ Prays for his disciples—mission accomplished!

Outline:

- 17:1-5, Christ prays that he would be glorified.
- 17:6-10, Christ prays for the disciples—mission accomplished.
- 17:11-19, Christ prays that his disciples will be kept.
- 17:20-26, Christ prays that the future church would be one.

Today: Christ Prays That His Disciples Will be Kept

- Kept? To guard, to protect, to watch over them
- Why does Christ pray for this? Because his physical presence is about to be in heaven. So, he prays that the Father would keep them—to keep them as one; set apart for God.

**17:14**/ “I have given them your word, and the world has hated them.”

J. C. Ryle, “True believers must expect the hatred ... of the wicked in every age. They must not be surprised at it. Christ and his disciples had to endure it, and all real Christians must endure it too. The reason of this (hatred) is the continual testimony which believers bear against the world’s opinions and practices. The world feels itself condemned, and hates those whose faith and lives condemn it. If believers were more bold, decided, and consistent, they would soon find these things out more than they do now. The good opinion of the world is about the last thing a true Christian should expect or desire.”

**17:15**/ “I do not ask that you take them out of the world.”

The world: John uses it 78 times in his gospel; by far more than any other New Testament writer.

What does the term refer to?

1. The physical world
2. The universe
3. The people of the world (Jn. 3:16, 1 Jn. 2:2)
4. The evil, organized system under Satan operated by unbelievers (Jn. 15:18-19, 1 Jn. 5:19)

“But that you keep them from the evil one (or evil).” Is it evil one or evil?

- Mt. 6:13, “And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”
- 1 Jn. 5:18, “He who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him.”

**17:16**/ “They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.”

Church history reveals that many believers have taken one of two bad options:

1. Withdrawal
2. Compromise