

Joy, Evil, Sent, John 17.13-19

1. Joy, v13¹

A. These things

- **Question:** what is the substance of the "these things" that Jesus knew would enable his disciples to experience his joy?²
- **Question:** why does he say this prayer?³

B. Full measure

- **Question:** where did Jesus' joy come from?⁴
- Shared joy: Jn 15.9-11.
- **Suggestion:** pray through John 15
- Joy that would not depend on circumstances: Acts 5:41.
- **Question:** how do we get this even greater assurance?⁵
- **Suggestion:** set up reminders to help you connect with the joy that is promised

2. Evil, vv14-16

A. The world⁶

- **Question:** who has rejected you? How do you feel about it?
- **Question:** who hates you because of the word?⁷
- **Question:** what is the "world"?⁸

B. The evil one⁹

- **Question:** what *are* we protected from?
- **Question:** what are we *not* protected from?

¹ His joy belongs to him and is a specific "thing", the "my" is emphatic (an adjective) here.

² Literal translation "...that they may have my joy completed in themselves."

³ See Jn 16.24

⁴ See, Jn 4.32-34

⁵ See, 2 Pet 1.12, 15; 3.1

⁶ Note repetition of "world" in vv 14,15,16.

⁷ Jesus hated: Jn 7:7; 15:18–19, 24–25. See also: opponents sought to arrest him Jn 7:30, 32, 44; 8:20; 10:39; 11:57 and wished to put him to death, Jn 5:18; 7:1, 19, 25; 8:37, 40; 11:53.

⁸ World unresponsive to Jesus, Jn 5.47; 12.37-50, so unsurprising if the disciples get the same reaction.

⁹ In each place in the Fourth Gospel where the activity of the evil one (or the devil or Satan) is mentioned up to this point it was directed against Jesus to bring about his death (Jn 6:70; 8:44; 13:2, 27).

- **Question:** how might this affect the way you pray?¹⁰
- Jesus was aware of being opposed by the evil one, Jn 12.31; 14.30; 16.11.¹¹
- **Question:** are there ways to simplify your life so that “the world” has less attraction?

3. Sent, vv17-18

- Already “clean” (Jn 15.3), so ready now to be sent

A. Clean, v17

- **Question:** what is your plan to allow the Word to keep you “clean”?
- “The very message which they are to proclaim in his name will exercise its sanctifying effect on them: that message is the continuation of his message, just as their mission in the world is the extension of his mission.” FF Bruce

B. Sent, v18¹²

- Just as the Father sent Jesus¹³ with authority, so he gave them authority (Matt 28:18-20)
 - i. As he had been sent with a message of God’s love and forgiveness, so they would proclaim the same message
 - ii. As he had been sent into danger and peril of death, so they would encounter the same challenges
 - iii. As the Father had sent him to the victory of the Resurrection, so they could expect the same victory.
- **Question:** of these three areas of sending, which are you most familiar with?
- **Question:** which are you comfortable with?
- **Question:** which do you feel best or worst equipped to share with others?
 - “As Bultmann expressed it, “The community takes over Jesus’ assault on the world, his ἐλέγχειν (“exposure”) and κρίνειν (“judging,” Jn 16:8–11)—the assault which is at the same time the paradoxical form of his courtship of the world (Jn 3:16), and which continually opens up for the world the possibility of faith (Jn 17.21, 23).” Word Biblical Commentary

Conclusion, v19

- Link with Lord's supper. Reminds us of, “My body . . . ὑπὲρ ὑμῶν (“on your behalf,” Luke 22:19; 1 Cor 11:24); “My blood . . . ὑπὲρ πολλῶν (“on behalf of many,” Mark 14:24).

¹⁰ See, Matthew 6:13

¹¹ The evil one has control of the world, but is an usurper, 1 Jn 5.19, cf. 1 Jn 2.13f; 1Jn 3.12.

¹² The sending actually comes later, but he is looking forward to Jn 20.21.

¹³ Jn 3:17, 34; 5:36, 38; 6:38, 57; 7:29; 8:42; 10:36; 11:42; 17:3, 8, 18, 21, 23, 25; 20:21