"Thou Gavest Them to Me"

Intro: The 17th chapter of the Gospel of John has been called the most remarkable chapter in the Bible. This is because it is the record of our ________ ________ to His Father. It is a wonderfully clear window into the Lord’s heart and mind, whereby we are invited to bear witness of the intimate relationship He has with His Father as He communes with Him __________ the desires of His ________.

A. For the purpose of our study we find that the Lord’s “_________ Priestly ________” can be divided into three parts.

1. In verses 1-5 Jesus prayed for ________ in regard to His fulfilling the eternal redemptive plan for the ________ of His ________.

2. In verses 6-19 He ________ for His disciples asking His Father to ________ them, for while He was going to ascend to the Father they would remain to proclaim Him.

3. In verses 20-26 the Lord prayed for ____ those ______ would come to ________ in Him, that they too would be kept by the Father’s hand.

B. “By far the largest part of Jesus’ prayer relates to the disciples. He was much more ________ about them than about Himself. He was sure of the suffering that was inevitable and the victory that was certain. The ________, however, ... in themselves they were likely to fail. ... Nevertheless, He prayed for them with confidence that they would be ________ by the Father’s power ...” (Merrill C. Tenney)

I. The Lord Jesus began to pray for His ________ by identifying who they were, specifically defining who He was ________ ________.

   A. The Lord’s disciples were (and are) those to whom He had ________ His ________ name.

   B. The Lord’s ________ were those whom the ________ ________ Him out of the world.

   C. Jesus’ disciples are those whom He referred to as “_______ ________ ________ ...”
1. Jesus’ disciples are those whom the Scripture refers to as God’s ___________, the ______________ of God and God’s own ______________. As Jesus said, “Thine they were ... .” And they have belonged to Him from eternity past for He ______________ it as a free act of His sovereign ______________.

D. Christ Jesus spoke of His disciples as those who were ______ Father’s and whom the Father __________ to Him.

1. “By virtue of the divine decree these ______ belonged to the Father. In order that this eternal counsel might become effective in their lives, they had been __________ to Jesus, so that He by means of His atoning sacrifice might _______ __________.” (William Hendriksen)

2. “The elect were ______________ ___ Christ to take care of. Thus the faithfulness of ______________ to the Father is engaged on our behalf. If a single one of God’s elect were to perish, the glory of the perfect Servant would be tarnished for all eternity. How ______________, then, is our ______________!” (A.W. Pink)

E. Those who are the Lord’s disciples were (and are) those who ______ ______ Father’s _______.

1. To keep the Father’s word is to believe and ________, observe, and act according to ______ ________.

2. ____________ of Christ is made known by true ______________ to the Father’s word.

Closing: ______ ______ a disciple of Jesus? Examine yourself to see if you are of the _________. Do you keep His word?

And, in the light of today’s teaching someone might say, “But what if I am not one of His elect? How can I know?” It is simple and not in the least bit complex. Jesus said, “_____ that the Father gives Me shall come to Me, and the _____ who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out” (John 6:37). One can be assured that they are chosen of God as they ________ ________ ; and they know if they come to Christ that He shall receive them. This is His Word and promise!

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name” (John 1:12). His children believe. Will you believe? Become His disciple today, ________ ________.

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