

ALL THINGS GIVEN TO CHRIST

JOHN 17:1-4 • TV236B

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by
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John 17:1-4

“These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.”

I would like for you to listen very carefully to this message that I believe God has given me for you today. The message is entitled: **“ALL THINGS GIVEN TO CHRIST.”**

In **John Chapter 3:35**, the apostle wrote; *“The Father loveth the Son and hath given all things into His hand.”* Do you see the significance there? All things were given to Him by the Father. They were decreed and designed to be His by the Father Himself.

All things were given to Him because He is the heir; Jesus Christ Himself is the heir. He is the Son and is the only begotten, well beloved, Son of God’s love. All things are given to Him because He is the Son.

All things are given to Him because He earned that right; He bought them. *“He died that He might be Lord of the dead and the living.”*

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He is the only one in heaven or earth who is sufficient to contain all things. That's right; He contains all things! Because He is the only one who can properly, for the glory of God, sustain them, preserve them, and dispose or disperse them. Christ is the only one.

If you will turn to **John 17**, we can look more carefully at these things given to Christ. This is so important. All things have been put into His hands. *"The Father loveth the Son and hath given all things into His hands."*

It is not enough just to say that; we have to find out what these things are that the Father hath given to the Son. We have to find out what these things are and what our relationship is to the Son. If everything is in Him and in order for me to participate in these things, I have to have some relationship with the Son.

John Flavel said; "All spiritual blessings are in Christ and they are ours as we are joint-heirs with Christ. They are ours as we are brought into a living union with Christ. That living union with Christ is by faith." *"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."*

It has to be an intelligent faith, a faith which has some understanding. Faith must have an object. That object must be known; *"How can they call upon Him in whom they have not heard? How can they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? How can they hear without a preacher?"*

In **John 17:1**, the Scripture says; *"The Lord lifted up His eyes to heaven and He said, "Father; the hour is come."* This is the hour of all hours. This is the hour of which He spake when He said to Mary; *"Woman, what am I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come."*

This is the hour of which He spake when He said to His disciples; *"You say deliver me from this hour. For this cause came I unto this hour."* This is the hour; this is the great hour of redemption.

This is the hour prophesied, promised, and typified throughout the whole Old Testament Scriptures. This is the hour in which the fulfillment of all things is about to take place. This is the hour of the cross, the hour of the sacrifice, and the hour of the sin offering. This is the hour of the atonement.

Our Lord Jesus, speaking to His Father, said; *"Father, the hour is come; glorify Thy Son that Thy Son may glorify Thee."* God's greater glory is His redemptive glory. What took place at Calvary is the greater glory of God.

Moses said to the Lord, *"Lord; show me your glory."* God said, *"I will cause my goodness to pass before you. (His goodness is His greater glory). I will be merciful to whom I will be merciful. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious."*

Listen to this in **verse 2**; this is the Lord's Prayer. The Lord Himself is speaking to the Father. Here is communion of the eternal Trinity. Here is the Son speaking to the Father about redemptive glory.

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He said, *“The hour is come,”* that great hour of all hours, the climax of the universe, the accomplishment of the atonement, and the redemption of His people; *“The hour is come, now glorify thy Son that thy Son also may glorify Thee.”*

Watch **verse 2**: *“Thou hast given Him power over all flesh.”* What did I say at the beginning of this message? I said that I was going to speak on **“All Things Given to Christ.”**

“The Father loveth the Son and the Father hath given all things into His hands.” What is the first thing that He said in this great, high priestly prayer, when He prayed about this great hour of all hours? What is the first thing He said when He talked about the redemptive glory of God?

The first thing that He says is; *“Father, you have given me authority.”* “You have given Me power over all flesh, over all creation, and over all creatures. I have supreme and absolute authority.”

I know that there are people who feel that I preach too much or perhaps too strongly on the sovereignty of Christ, upon the authority of Jesus Christ. I do not think so; I really don't think so. I don't believe that it is possible for any human being to be able to properly exalt and magnify the Lord Jesus Christ in His majesty, power, and sovereignty, like He ought to be magnified. I don't believe that a man could.

I do know this; I know that the little weak, feminine, failure, which is called “Jesus” today, is not the Christ of the Bible, because Christ said this in **Matthew 28:18** to His disciples before He ascended back to the Father; *“All authority is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”*

You think about that! Here is the Master; He's been crucified, buried, and raised again. He is about to ascend unto the Father, to the right hand of God. He speaks to His disciples gathered about Him before He sends them into the world to preach the Gospel.

What He says is this; *“All power (authority and control), is given unto me in heaven and in earth,”* all authority. *“You go and preach the Gospel; he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. He that believeth not shall be damned.”*

In **Philippians 2**, the Scripture says; *“God hath highly exalted him and given him a name which is above every name, in heaven, earth and under the earth that every knee will bow and confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.”*

I am talking about every knee, yours, mine, and everyone else's. I'm including every monarch and every pauper. They will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord; *“God hath made this same Jesus whom you have crucified, Lord and Christ, King of kings and Lord of lord's.”*

Listen to **Hebrews 2:8**; *“Thou hast put all things in subjection under His feet.”* God has left nothing that is not under Him.

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We are kind of wasting our time feeling sorry for Jesus aren't we? We are kind of wasting our time because our Lord Jesus Christ has all authority in heaven and in earth.

I tell you, the folks to feel sorry for are ourselves. We shouldn't weep for Christ. *"Thou hast given Him all power, (all authority), in heaven and earth."* He is the sovereign, infinite, immutable, unchangeable, almighty and eternal God. This is who Jesus Christ is.

Here is the second thing that the Father has given: *"He has given all things into His hands."*

You know, Pilate said to Him as He stood before Christ; *"Answereth not thou me?"* "Do you know who I am? I am Pilate; I am the Governor around this place and you answer me not?" *"Don't you know that I have the power to crucify you or let you go?"*

Our Lord looked at him and this is what He said; *"Thou couldest have no power over me at all except it were given thee of my Father."* That is exactly right! Do you know where the Father has put all the power? The Father has put the power in the hands of the resurrected Christ.

Here is the **second** thing in **verse 2**: *"Thou hast given Him all power over all flesh that He should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given Him."* What is my message? **"All Things Are Given to Christ."**

The Father has given Him all power and the Father has given Him a people. I hear people say, "Well, you preach election," of course I do. They say, "I preach a covenant of grace," of course I do.

They say I also preach that the Father gave the Son a people back before the foundation of the world and that He made Christ their Surety and Redeemer and that they shall come to Him. Yes I do and they will come to Christ, *"through belief of the truth and through the sanctification of the Spirit."*

Of course I believe this because that is what the Bible says; *"God hath given Him a people."* Our Lord is speaking here of a chosen people which the Father hath given to Him out of Adam's race.

He said that in **John Chapter 6:37**; *"All that My Father giveth me shall come to me. Him that cometh to me, I will in no wise cast out. I came down from heaven not to do my will but the will of Him that sent me. And this is the will of Him that sent me that of all which He hath given me, I will lose nothing but raise it up at the last day."*

He said in **John 10**; *"My sheep hear my voice and I know them. They follow me and I give them eternal life and they will never perish. My Father which gave them me is greater than all and no man can pluck them out of My Father's hand."* Who gave them to Him? The Father gave them to Him.

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Our Lord uses this phrase six times in this one prayer. Look at **John 17:2**; (are you open to what the Scripture says?) In **verse 2** He says, *“Thou hast given me all authority over all flesh that I should give eternal life to as many as Thou hast given me.”*

In **verse 6** He says; *“I have manifest Thy name unto the men which Thou gavest me out of the world. Thine they were and Thou gavest them me.”*

In **verse 9** He says; *“I pray for them; I pray not for the world; I pray for them which Thou hast given me; they are thine and all mine are thine.”*

In **verse 11** He says; *“Father, keep those whom Thou hast given me.”*

In **verse 12** He says, *“I have kept those whom Thou hast given me.”*

In **verse 24** He says; *“I will that those whom Thou hast given me be with me where I am.”*

The Father gave the Son a people, an innumerable company, *“as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore. Out of every tribe, kindred, nation, and tongue under heaven, the Father gave the Son a people.”* This is what the Scripture says.

“Herein is love, not that we love God; He loved us.” Oh, we call on God but He called us first. We sought the Lord but He sought us first. Our Lord gathered His disciples about Him and said; *“You didn’t choose me; I chose you.”*

Abraham found grace in the eyes of the Lord. *“Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”* He has a people that the Father gave Him. I do not know who they are or where they are. I am looking for them; I am looking for the sheep and preaching to them. *“My sheep will hear my voice.”*

A bunch of people said to Him one day; *“If you be the Christ, why don’t you tell us plainly?”* He said, *“I told you and you didn’t believe me because you are not of my sheep. My sheep hear my voice.”*

He calls them His sheep, His jewels, His people, His brethren, and His nation. We are God’s sons and we are sons of God.

What did the Father give to the Son? He gave Him *“all power in heaven and in earth.”* What did the Father give to the Son? He gave Him a people, countless beyond the stars.

Third: Look at **verses 2 and 3**; listen carefully; *“Thou hast given him all power over all flesh that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.”*

He is going to give eternal life. The Father gave Him life to give. *“The gift of God is eternal life.”* Eternal life is a gift; *“the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life.”*

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God has not set eternal life to the highest bidder, the hardest worker, or to the most diligent disciple. He has given eternal life to folks who cannot afford it. He said, *"This is eternal life."*

Eternal life is not in being a Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian, or a Methodist; it is to know God, not any god, but the living God and *"Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent."* The Father hath given the Son eternal life to give to the people to whom He gave the Son.

What is eternal life? Eternal life is not in how long it is going to last but it is the quality of it. Eternal life is that life, the spiritual life. It is that life which Adam lost in the Garden of Eden when he died by disobeying God.

Eternal life is divine life. Eternal life is the life of God; *"He restoreth my soul."* Eternal life is something that men do not have apart from God.

Men can have natural life. There are several forms of life. There is plant life, animal life, human life, and divine life or spiritual life.

When Adam was in the Garden of Eden, he had spiritual life and human life. When he sinned, he fell and he died. *"Death passed upon all men."* That death was spiritual death. That is the reason that the Holy Spirit writes in **Ephesians 2**; *"You hath he quickened who were dead."*

We weren't dead physically; we were dead spiritually. He has given us life. That is the new birth that most folks don't know anything about. Most folks who claim it don't know anything about it.

Eternal life is spiritual life and is not a religious decision. Eternal life is not a religious profession or accepting Jesus, it is being born of the Spirit of God. That's right! We have life restored.

A man cannot see unless he has life; he can't hear unless he has life, and he can't believe unless he has life. They have the cart before the horse. You don't believe and receive life; you receive life and you believe. God gives life. Eternal life is in the hands of Christ to give to people, *"to as many as thou hast given Him."*

We have physical life; there is no one denying that. *"As the Father has life in himself so hath he given the Son to have life in himself."* *"The Son quickeneth, (makes alive), whom He will."*

Not everyone is alive. Do you mean that everyone running around town is not alive? They are alive physically but they are not alive spiritually; they are dead. They have to be born again. This is what it is; it is a new birth, something that God does.

You don't have anything to do with the new birth. God does it and Christ gives it. *"This is the record; God hath given us eternal life and this life is in His Son."* This is a gift of spiritual life. The Father has given it in the hands of Christ.

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Do you see what I said when I started this message? This is serious business that I am dealing with today. I wish you would listen; *“The Father loveth the Son, (the Lord Jesus Christ), and hath given all things into His hands.”*

He prayed and said; *“Father, I thank you; (I praise your name); you have given me power over all flesh that I should give eternal life, (spiritual life), to those whom Thou hast given me.”*

Fourth: in **verse 4** the Father also gave Him; He said, *“I have finished the work you gave me to do.”* That’s right; He said, *“Father; I have glorified thee on this earth.”*

Our Lord Jesus Christ was conceived of the Holy Ghost and was born in the womb of a virgin woman. He was born like any other person except His Heavenly Father is His Father. He had no human father.

He struggled in the womb and came forth and nursed on His mother’s breast. He grew up in a carpenter’s shop and walked upon this earth in the flesh with flesh, bones, and blood like you and me. *“He was tempted in all points as we are, yet without sin.”*

He died on a cross and in this entire human journey He glorified His Father on this earth. We have never glorified God. *“We have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”* He glorified His Father and said, *“I finished the work you gave me to do.”*

What was the work that the Father gave Him to do? Notice this; whatever the Father gave Him to do, He did it and He finished it. He didn’t start it or make a great contribution to it. He didn’t partially accomplish it. He didn’t get 4/5 of it done; He said; *“I have finished it.”*

Whatever the work was that He came to do; He did it 100%. He finished that work which was prophesied in **Genesis 3:15**. God said; *“The seed of woman will bruise the serpent’s head.”* I’m talking about Satan and his head, his government, power, and control being crushed.

Christ did that; it is pictured in **Genesis 3:21**, when God slew an animal and covered Adam and Eve’s nakedness. Our Lord is the righteousness that covers our nakedness.

Christ’s work was typified in the Passover Lamb when God said; *“Kill a lamb, consume its flesh, put its blood on the doorpost and lintel. When I see the blood, I will pass over you.”* The Scripture says, *“Christ is our Passover.”*

“As the brazen serpent was lifted up, and as Moses lifted up the serpent, even so, the Son of man must be lifted up.”

The high priest went into the Holy of Holies with the atonement to cover the sins of the people, to cover the mercy seat which contained the broken law. That is the work that God gave Christ to accomplish. His work was to redeem a people, totally, fully, finally, and completely.

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He came down here, *“being born of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were born under the law.”* When He died on that cross, He said; *“it is finished.”* *“I finished the work you gave me to do.”*

Now then; Christ is my Saviour, my Lord, and my Redeemer, and *“by His stripes I am healed.”* If He is my *“wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption,”* tell me; what is there left for me to do or to contribute to what He did? What is there in getting God into a notion to save my soul?

There is nothing to do but to believe. *“He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life. He that believeth not the Son shall not see life but the wrath of God abideth on him.”* Christ said, *“I finished the work you gave me to do.”*

“When He, by Himself, purged our sins, He sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high.” He did what? When He, by Himself, purged and paid for, He finished the payment of our sins. *“In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and you are complete in Him.”*

That is the best word to describe His work, *“complete.”* The word *“complete”* defines the whole thing. Nothing is added when something is complete. When it is complete it is finished. *“We are complete in Him.”*

In **verse 6** it says; *“I have manifested Thy name. No man knows who the Father is except the Son and he to whom the Son will reveal Him.”*

The Scripture says, *“The heavens declare the glory of God.”* The conscience declares the holiness of God. The creation declares the power of God but only Christ can declare the mercy and grace of God. It is in Christ.

Phillip said, *“Show us the Father.”* He said, *“Phillip; he that has seen me has seen the Father.”* Our Lord Jesus came down to this earth to reveal to us the Father.

In **Hebrews 1: 1- 3**; *“God who at sundry times and in different manners, spoke in time past to our fathers by the prophets: Hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son.”* The Son reveals the Father.

“Whom He hath appointed heir of all things;” He is the heir of all things. I told you that; He is the Son and He is the heir. We are just *“joint-heirs with Christ.”* That is exactly right!

“By whom He made the worlds, who being in the brightness of God’s glory, the exact image of His person, who upholdeth all things by the word of His power. When He had by Himself purged our sins, He sat down on the right hand of God.”

**“My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness,**

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**I dare not trust the sweetest frame
I wholly lean on Jesus' name,**

**His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in this whelming flood,**

**When all around my soul gives way
He then, is my only hope and stay."**

This is all because He manifested to me the mercy and grace of God; it is all in Christ.

Lastly: He said, *"I have given them the words which you gave me."* "You gave Me your words and I gave it to them."

When our Lord Jesus speaks the words, *"which the Father gave to Him,"* He speaks the testimony of the Gospel concerning Himself. Listen to this in **John 14:10**; *"The words that I speak, (these words of comfort, these words of grace which flowed from His lips, these words of hope), "these words are not my words; they are the words of Him that sent me;" the Father that dwelleth in me; He doeth the works."*

Jehovah God decreed the way of life. It is not ours to say, "I just don't agree with the Bible." It is not ours to say at all; we must agree with the Word of God. That is the only source of any understanding of God. It is our only rule of faith and practice. There is nothing left.

Jehovah God decreed the way of life and He gave all things for the Son to fulfill. Christ came into the world and fulfilled all that was written of Him. He died according to the Scriptures. He rose according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven as our intercessor according to the Scriptures.

The Holy Spirit wrote these words down through the apostles. The apostles gave them to us and the apostles declared this; *"These things we have written that you might believe that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ and that believing you might have life through His name."*

One other thing and I will close. Look at **verse 22**; *"And the glory which Thou gavest me, I have given them that they may be one as we are."*

The glory that the Father gave the Son, He has given to us. All the glory that arises from His Son ship, all the glory arising from His sacrifice, all the glory arising from His conquest of death and hell is given to us.

All the glory rising from His resurrection and His exaltation, all the glory of His riches, and all the glory of all these things, given to Christ through Him, is given to them who believe.

What a blessing and what a promise!