

## TRANSFORMATION Letter by Dr. Julie Chambliss 4-26-2014

*John 17:20-23*

*20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may **BE ONE**, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may **BE ONE** in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may **BE ONE** just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may **BE MADE PERFECT IN ONE**, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. NKJV*

Three little verses and yet they contain much more explosive power than all that resides in the total array of bombs and bullets that have ever been or will be used for war. Much, much more.

Jesus is speaking just before His death. As a matter of fact, He is praying. And this is the conclusion of His prayer.

He's praying for us, "those who will believe in Me through their word." And what does He pray. "**That they all may be one.**"

He repeats this phrase 4 times in 3 verses. This is the only time in all of the gospels where Jesus repeats himself again and again. It must be VERY important.

And it's the only place in the gospels where Jesus explicitly prays for US! That we might be one. I pray the importance of these words is beginning to grab you intellectually and emotionally. "**That they all may be one.**"

There is a tremendous promise attached to this prayer ... did you catch that? Jesus said that when we "all are one" **THEN THE WORLD WILL KNOW**. Meditate on that, beloved! Because this isn't a verse that most people can quote from memory. Yet this phrase is SO IMPORTANT TO JESUS that He actually repeats it as well, 2 times in the space of just 3 verses.

And "what will the world know?," you ask. Quite simply, when we, the Body of Christ, are one, JESUS SAYS then the world will know and believe "**THAT YOU SENT ME.**" That the Father sent the Son. That Jesus is the Son of God. The Word made flesh. The Light of the world. The Alpha and Omega of all human history.

What kind of oneness is Jesus talking about here? He tells us clearly ... **the same kind of oneness that the Father and the Son have ... the Father in the Son, and the Son in the Father.** And to make it even more important, Jesus prays it twice ... within the same 3 verses ... but the second time, He adds another supernaturally powerful phrase ... "**I IN THEM.**" **The Father in the Son, and Jesus in Us.**

Incredibly, the momentum of Jesus words continues to build. Now He tells the Father that He has given us His Glory. What??? Yes, beloved Jesus says that He has Given Us His Glory and this scripture tells us that He has a specific reason for doing so. He's given us His glory IN ORDER THAT WE MIGHT BE ONE.

Does the call TO BE ONE sound impossible to you? It does to me until I read the prayer of Jesus just before he gave Himself for us. **The Son is praying to the Father that we MAY BE ONE, and He says He has given us His glory to accomplish it. Amazing!**

But there is more. The final part of Jesus' prayer is simply stupendous. Jesus prays that the world might know that the SAME LOVE WITH WHICH THE FATHER HAS LOVED THE SON IS THE LOVE WITH WHICH THE FATHER LOVES US! The same. **The Father loves the Son and the Father loves us with the SAME LOVE.** That's what it says, beloved.

**Jesus prays that we may be made perfect in love.** Perfect, complete, not missing anything, whole. We are not to be a body without an arm, or a kidney, or an eye. We are to be perfectly whole and perfectly functioning, made in the image of God, perfected in love. That is what Jesus prayed.

If we want Coweta County to know that Jesus is the one true Son of God who was sent into the world to die for our sins, then we must pray that we be perfected in love for one another by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**We must pray AS ONE! One Body, though many different members. Young and old. Black, white, and Hispanic. Female and male. Pentcostals, Evangelicals, Methodists, Lutherans, Baptists, Catholics, Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Seventh Day Adventists.**

**We must pray as Jesus did for us all to be perfected in love.**

**We must pray for the power of the of the Holy Spirit to perfect us in the same love which the Father has for His Son.**

**The scripture tell us that then Coweta County will KNOW that Jesus is truly Lord!**