

John 17 – The Greatest Prayer. (3) Christ Jesus glorified in his resurrection. (refs for Bible study 19/10/17).

Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son also may glorify you. v1

And now, O Father, glorify me together with yourself, with the glory which I had with you before the world was. v5

Many of our problems as Christians stem from focussing too much on ourselves, and not enough on the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus prayed that the Father would glorify him. That prayer began to be answered at the cross. The answer to his prayer continued in his resurrection.

The event: The resurrection was a **real event** in time and space. He rose with a **real human body**, yet with **amazing new powers**. Many reliable witnesses, 1Cor.15v3-8. Witnesses chosen by God, Acts 10v40-41. So ordered as to reward faith. When Christ was raised, both Father and Son were glorified.

The declaration: Rom.1v4 tells us he was *‘declared to be the Son of God with power’*.

- **declared:** To declare = to designate, mark out, make public something that’s already a fact. God declares: ‘Look! He’s my Son! He always has been, he always will.’
- **to be the Son of God:** It means that Jesus’ claims are vindicated. He has done what he said he would. He is who he said he was, Jn.2v19, Mk.8v31, Mt.26v63-64. It means that his sacrifice is accepted. He has overcome even death itself! This was the event that convinced his confused and doubting disciples. Thomas’ exclamation is telling: “My Lord and my God!” More impressive still is the change in his unbelieving half-brothers, Jn.7v5, Ac.1v14. Only the resurrection convinced them.
- **with power:** For a while he was the Son of God in weakness. But now in he is the Son of God in power! In the world power tends to corrupt, but not with Christ. He has the power to give eternal life, Jn.17v2. The conversion of every sinner is a mighty act of power, Eph.2v1-5 – which is why we must pray. His resurrection power pulses through every believer, Rom.6v4, Eph.1v19-20. No-one else has died for his people’s sins, no-one else has then been raised from the dead! What glory has come to Christ in his resurrection!

The difference: Christ is glorified in his resurrection, declared to be the Son of God with power, his claims proved, his sacrifice accepted, with power to impart life to his people. The difference this makes: we are a people who...

- **worship!** We confess what Thomas confessed – and it shows in our lives as well as our words.
- **rejoice!** We rejoice in past deliverance, present power, future hope.
- **tell!** A glorious and glorified Saviour is surely something and Someone we can’t keep to ourselves.