

# HARD SAYINGS

## SESSION #10: For Those Whom the Father Has Given (John 17)

*Why limited atonement is biblical and necessary, so that Christians can rest assured in God's plan of salvation and obtain great joy.*

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### Hermeneutical Principles

1. God First
2. Doctrine of Scripture (Inspired, Infallible, Without Error)
3. Rule of Faith (Scripture interprets Scripture)
4. Perspicuity
5. Sources of Interpretive Authority

### Exegetical Methodology

1. Read the Text
2. Examine Literary Context
3. Consider Historical Context
4. Consult Trusted Interpreters
5. From Sound Interpretation to Useful Application

### Text

- John 17
  1. What does it actually say?
  2. What are we looking to understand about this passage as we begin to examine it?
  3. Is it descriptive or prescriptive?
  4. What is hard about this passage?

### Literary Context

- Threefold Office of Christ
- Narrative Setting
- Overall Themes & Significance
- Three Main Sections
  - Jesus Prays for His Own Glorification (Verses 1–5)
    - Jesus prays for his own glorification, reflecting on his authority to grant eternal life to those given to him by the Father.
  - Jesus Prays for His Disciples (Verses 6–19)

- He intercedes for his immediate disciples, whom the Father has given him out of the world. Key elements include protection, unity, sanctification, and joy amid worldly opposition.
- Jesus Prays for All Future Believers (Verses 20–26)
  - Jesus extends his prayer to all future believers who will come to faith through the disciples' message, emphasizing unity, love, and eternal presence with him.
- 1. What light do the passages immediately surrounding the difficult verse shed on the meaning of our passage?
- 2. What is clarified?
- 3. What questions do we still have about it?

## Historical Context

- Five Points of Calvinism
  - Total Depravity
  - Unconditional Election
  - Limited Atonement
  - Irresistible Grace
  - Perseverance of the Saints

## Trusted Interpreters

- Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 3 & 8

## From Sound Interpretation to Useful Application

- Assurance of Salvation
- Comfort in God's Sovereignty & Purposefulness
- Motivation for Worship & Rejoicing
- Evangelistic Zeal
  1. What do we learn about God?
  2. How does this passage shape our hearts to glorify God?
  3. What do we learn about people?
  4. How does this passage change how we live as citizens of God's Kingdom?
  5. How does it equip us to rest in the gospel and share it with others?