

For the Love of an Imperative Verb John 17:1-11

The Seventh Sunday of Easter / The Sunday after the Ascension, Year A, RCL

¹After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; **glorify** [δόξασόν, **dóxasón**] your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵So now, Father, **glorify** [δόξασόν, **dóxasón**] me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, **protect** [τήρησον, **tērēson**] them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.” [NRSV89]

17:1

δόξασόν, **dóxasón**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers sg* from δοξάζω

translations: **glorify** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Brown],
also **glorifica** [IAdNT]

Brown: “The process of glorification has already begun with the commencement of ‘the hour’, but it is not yet complete.” [p. 740.]

17:5

δόξασόν, **dóxasón**; *vb: aor act imperative 2nd pers sg* from δοξάζω

translations: **glorify** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Brown],
also **glorifica** [IAdNT]

Barrett: “The *vûv*, the aorist imperative, and the sharply juxtaposed pronouns are intended to bring out a contrast. In his obedient ministry Jesus has glorified the Father; now, in response to the death which sets the seal upon his obedience and his ministry, let the Father glorify him.” [p. 504.]

17:11

τήρησον, **tērēson**; vb: aor act *imperative* 2nd pers sg from τηρέω

translations: **protect** [NRSV89, NIV11, NRSVue], also **keep** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NJB, NKJV; Brown], **preserve** [Barrett], **guarda** [IAdNT]

Brown: Keeping them safe means keeping them from the contamination of the world. [p. 759.]

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