

A MESSAGE OF COMFORT
John 14:1-6

Introduction:

1. The apostles had given up everything to follow Jesus.
 - a. They left their homes, families and occupations.
 - b. On one occasion, Peter said: “Lord, See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have” (Matthew 19:27)?
2. The apostles expected Christ to set up a kingdom on earth (Acts 1:6).
3. Except for Judas, they loved the Savior and were loyal to Him.
4. The events of the past few days had dashed their hopes to the ground.
 - a. Jesus had repeatedly told them He was going to Jerusalem to die (Matthew 16:21; John 12:7; 23-27, 32,33).
 - b. He also told them one of them would betray Him (John 13:21-27).
 - c. He foretold Peter would deny Him three times (John 13:36-38).
 - d. They must have been deeply shocked and saddened at His words.
5. Jesus comforted His apostles.
 - a. He was going away to prepare a place for them and would come back for them.
 - b. He would not leave them without a Comforter, but would send the Holy Spirit in His place Who would guide them into all truth.
 - c. They could be of good cheer for He had overcome the world.
6. Jesus’ words of comfort to the apostles in John 14 have given great comfort to all disciples in all ages.
 - a. It is beloved by all faithful saints.
 - b. It is read more frequently at funerals than any other N. T. passage.

Discussion:

- I. “LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED.”
 - A. If we believe in God, we ought also to believe in His Son.
 1. God sent His Son into the world (John 3:16).
 2. Christ died for our sins on the cross (1 Peter 2:24).
 3. God raised Christ from the dead (Acts 2:32).
 4. Jesus and His Father are one (John 10:30).

B. Our faith in God will bring us through the tribulations of this world.

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea” (Psalm 46:1,2).

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

II. “IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS.”

A. This statement has inspired many songs and sermons.

- 1. Webster defines mansion as: “1) formerly a manor house; 2) a large, imposing house; a stately residence.”**
- 2. In the original language, the word means “a resting place, a place of abode” (Robertson; Word Pictures in the N. T.).**
- 3. Many translations render it: “In My Father’s house are many rooms” (NASB; ESV; McCord; HCSB; NIV; NRSV, etc.).**
- 4. The idea of a large, luxurious home is a physical, human idea of Heaven, but Heaven is a spiritual place.**

B. We will dwell in our Father’s house as children live in their father’s home.

III. “I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU.”

A. Jesus’ going to Heaven required His death, burial, resurrection and ascension (Acts 2:22-33).

B. God has always prepared a place for His people.

- 1. Eden was prepared for Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:8,9).**
- 2. Canaan was prepared for Israel (Deuteronomy 6:10,11).**
- 3. The church was prepared for His saved people on earth (Acts 2:47; 20:28).**
- 4. Heaven is being prepared for our eternal habitation.**
 - a. It is where our citizenship is (Philippians 3:20).**
 - b. It is “the city which has foundations, whose Builder and Maker is God” (Hebrews 11:10).**
 - c. It is “a better, a heavenly country” (Hebrews 11:16).**

- d. It is “an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away” (1 Peter 1:4).

IV. “I WILL COME AGAIN.”

- A. The second coming of Christ will be the fruition of our hope.
 1. Paul said of the Thessalonians: “For they themselves declare what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from Heaven...” (1 Thessalonians 1:9,10).
 2. We “look for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).
- B. When Christ comes, God’s plan of redemption will be complete:
 1. The dead will be raised (1 Thessalonians 4:16).
 2. We will rise to meet Christ in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:17).
 3. The earth and all in it will be burned up (2 Peter 3:10).
 4. The dead will be judged (Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:10).
 5. The wicked will be cast into Hell (Matthew 25:41, 46).
 6. The righteous will be carried into Heaven (Matthew 25:34, 46).

V. “I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.”

- A. Jesus is the only way of salvation.
 1. He is not “a way,” or ”one way,” but He is the only Way by which anyone can go to Heaven!
 2. He is not “a truth,” or “the truth as one sees it,” but He is the only Truth which can save us!
 3. He is not “a life,” or “one of the lives which makes eternal life possible,” but He is the only One who can give us eternal life!
 - a. He created all life in the beginning (John 1:3).
 - b. He gives us eternal life in the world to come (Mark 10:29,30; 1 John 5:11,12).
- B. “No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

Conclusion:

1. Jesus Christ is man’s only Savior!!!
2. Only by obedience to Him is it possible for anyone to be saved (Hebrews 5:9; John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Matthew 10:32,33; Mark 16:16).