

Comfort For Troubled Hearts 2019-10-20

John 14:1-7

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. 4 And you know the way to where I am going." 5 Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" 6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Feel this is not how life supposed to work out? Disappointed w/self, others (spouse, children, friends, employer), circumstances (loss of job, sickness, future),

- Can't change/control so what bring peace/comfort to us?
- Faith in Jesus Christ and hope in His promises can comfort troubled hearts. John 14:1

Disciples troubled: Judas betrayal, Peter denial, Jesus' death/departure...NO LIKE THIS!

- Loving Jesus ministers to disciples fears rather than His own needs.

Jesus directs disciples to have faith in Himself because He is God...basis for all faith/comfort.

- Believe when not see Me same way believe in invisible Father. John 14: 7-11, 1:18
- Philip: If see Father, then believe all Jesus told them about Father.
 - Jesus: I/Father are one (6x)...claim to deity.
 - Believe My words are Father's words. if necessary cause of works.

Not just faith in Jesus comforts troubled hearts but also hope in His promises. John 14:2-4

- Jesus calms disciples' troubled hearts with promises of heaven and reunion there.

Place Jesus is going (Father's heavenly house) is real place with room for all Christians.

- country/vastness, city/inhabitants, paradise/beauty, house/family.
 - Jesus going away to make family reunion possible.

Jesus prepare place of dwelling with God in heaven with His coming death/resurrection/ascension.

- "house" not completed until last of elect brought to faith. Romans 9:22-24
 - Ancient times: children married, build addition on Father's house.

Heaven less to do with location and accommodations as being with Jesus.

- Where is Jesus/heaven: If not know destination can't know way. John 14:5-6, Acts 4:12

6th of 7 "I AM" in Jn probably most exclusive of all and thus offensive to many.

- Jesus not merely show way to God/heaven; He is the only way.
 - Christianity known as "the way" because of its exclusivity. 6x in Acts.
- Salvation only thru Jesus who offers it freely to all. *Gospel*

Jesus only way to Father because He is the truth and life. John 1:3-4, 5:26, 11:25-26

- God is equal to each of His attributes: God has love and He is love.
- “truth” = Jesus totally truthful and He is source of all truth.
- “life” = not breath or spirit but life as opposed to death....eternal life
 - Jesus has life within himself so He source of all life and giver of eternal life for his own.
 - Eternal life begin in Jesus now, not just future because Holy Spirit indwells.

In this life things not work out according to our plans...can't change/control.

- Outer resources evaporate and inner strength is inadequate.
 - Feel overwhelmed by fear, doubts, grief, conflict....we're troubled

Legitimate reasons troubled but not need be victimized by our feelings.

- Do something: Not pretend strong but recognize weakness and need for God's help. *John 14:27-28a, 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, 1 Peter 1:4, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18*
 - find hope/comfort not in things presently seen but unseen.
 - Faith in Jesus Christ and hope in His promises will comfort troubled hearts.
- Not escapists but we find great comfort/strength from these truths.
 - Personal faith in personal God brings personal strength.