



— THE GOSPEL OF —
JOHN

Chapter 14

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- Heaven – Mansions
- I AM the Way, Truth & Life
- If you love Me, keep my commandments
- Trinity
- Holy Spirit

John 14:1-6 (HEAVEN)

Jesus Comforts the Disciples

- Jesus just dropped 4 Bombshells in Chapter 13:
 1. **Jesus is actually leaving them** (John 13:1; 31; 33; 36; 14:12; 28-29)
 2. **There is a traitor in the room,**
 3. **He would be brutally killed, and that the disciples would all scatter,**
 4. **Peter would betray Him 3 times**
 5. **Jesus washes the disciple's feet**
- They were just arguing about who would be the greatest before this, and now Jesus drops these shocking bombshells.
- Jesus had been alienating and angering the religious leaders all week.
- The disciples had left all to follow Jesus, and now they were probably fearing for their own lives if Jesus was going to die. **How would you feel?**

John 14:1-6

The Great Christian Hope

- When the disciples are most distressed, Jesus comforts them with the greatest hope that He promises...
- **Our Heavenly Inheritance** – The promises of Salvation, ETERNAL LIFE, are mainly laid up in heaven for us, since this life is so short.
- Our desire, hope, and longing is to spend forever in a place of peace and joy rather than a place of punishment and sorrow. That's the promise of God to us.
- **Simply stated, we are Christians because we desire heaven; we want to escape hell. (It's not about having a rich, trial free life now.)**
- We are joint heirs with Christ. We inherit heaven. And Peter says it is a definite promise that cannot be voided, canceled, or altered. He calls it an imperishable, undefiled, unfading inheritance reserved for us.
- We can't comprehend how wonderful it will be, but we know Heaven is a place where not only worship, praise and activities will be going on, but we will be in **full and complete relationship with God.**
- This is a dying body. From the day that you were born, you began to die. It's only a question of when you do. **We need LIFE! This is what we need.**

John 14:1-4 (Your Home, Your Country, The Goal of Life)

HEAVEN

Don't Worry

Trust Jesus as God

Heaven Exists

Heaven is for You

Second Coming

You will be with
ME in Heaven

You know the
Way to Heaven
Now....Jesus!

“Let not your heart be troubled; **you believe in God, believe also in Me.**”

² In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

John 14:1-6

HEAVEN – This is our Home

- V.1 – Another claim to deity – Jesus is God, believe Him
- V.2 – “My Father’s House” – this also described the Temple in John 2, however, the temple is just an earthly copy of the real thing, and it was destroyed. It symbolized God’s presence among His people.
 - This is referring to **HEAVEN** (many rooms like a family house)
- Heaven is sometimes referred to as a Country, a City, a Kingdom, a Paradise and a House. Read **Rev. 21** & “**The Country I Love Best**” on the website.
- V.3 – “I will come again and receive you to Myself” – this is referring to the Second Coming. **Acts 1:11; Acts 7:55-59** – Heaven is up above.
- But in the meantime whenever a believer dies, the picture here is of the Lord standing to receive him. “**I am the Door**”. Jesus is preparing an open door for us in Heaven by the Cross, 12 hours from now, since no sin is allowed there.
- **Thomas asks the Biggest Question of Humanity: How do I become “Right” with God and get to Heaven.**

John 14:6

Only One Way to Heaven

• John 14:6 Jesus said to him, “**I AM the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.**”

- The 6th Great “I AM” statement – The Gospel in a Nutshell!
- **WAY**
- Since this is the answer to Thomas’ question of v.5, “WAY” is the principal theme. The Way to heaven. OT described the “way” a lifestyle - Deut. 5:32-33; 31:29; Is. 35:8; Ps. 27:11. In the NT, the earliest title for the church was “the Way” or the lifestyle – **Acts 9:2; 19:9; 24:14, 22**
- Jesus is the **WAY** to God only because He is the **TRUTH** of God (1:1,18; 5:19; 8:29) and the **LIFE** (1:4; 5:26-29; 11:25).
- This is why we have the **GREAT COMMISSION** – Christianity was initially defined as “**The Way**” (exclusivity) – the only way to God and to Heaven. This is the foundational truth of the Bible. No good works or other religion can save you!

John 14:6

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- **TRUTH**

- In Greek & English it means Reality vs. Unreality, or Truth versus Falsehood
- Old Testament truth referred to Faithfulness or commitment to God’s Word
- Psalm 86:11, 26:3, 119:30

- **LIFE**

- Lifestyle of Righteousness; Eternal life
- Psalm 16:11; Proverbs 6:23; 10:17
- Jesus doesn’t tell them much about this Way, Truth and Life here other than Jesus₇ Himself embodies that Way to God.

John 14:6

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- **Exclusivism** – it is totally inadequate to claim one knows God, while disowning Jesus Christ. Either Jesus is God incarnate or He is a liar or lunatic.
- **Test** of whether someone really knows God (and is a Christian), lay in their response to Jesus and the Bible (do they agree 100% that Jesus is God & the Bible is the Word of God?)
- **Evangelism** – the key assumption behind the message of salvation is that there is no other way. “No one comes to the Father except through Me.” – If you don’t fully believe this, then you don’t believe the Bible and Jesus are the Truth.
- **Universalism** is a lie and totally contrary to Jesus’ teaching. **Do not misunderstand or doubt this truth!** The world and the modern liberal church do not believe or teach this critical truth anymore, but we must, or we are not obeying the commands and teachings of Jesus, and you will not be used by God very much. **Acts 4:12**
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmZ8qqNjfwY> ; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OTS1tMC38AQ>

John 14:7-14

Jesus & the Father are One

- Jesus is teaching the disciples to live by faith, not by sight, since He is going away.
- This is scary since the disciples don't know if the Father will receive them the way Christ has. The point of v.7-14 is to give them ASSURANCE, that not only will this be good, but it will be to their advantage that He goes (**John 16:7**)
- V.7 – **“If you had known Me” = Personal Relationship with Jesus.** To know Jesus is to know God – **JESUS IS GOD!!** **John 1:14; 2 Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3**
- V.11 – If you don't believe in Me, **believe in the works that I do** (5:36; 10:38)
- V.12 – **The greater works are: Bringing people to Salvation by Preaching the Gospel (Peter and Paul brought more to God through the Gospel than Jesus did)**
- **V. 14 – God will do anything you ask?...Must put in context of other Bible statements**
 - 1. Attitude** must be one of continuous faith with prayer and forgiveness - **Matt 7:7; 21:22; James 1:6-7; Mark 11:25-26**
 - 2. According to the Will of God** – **1 John 5:14-15** –
 - 3. also conditional on v.15, Obedience...and must be for the Glory of Jesus Christ.**
- V.15 – **“If you love Me, Keep My commandments”** – Love is not only emotional, it's about obedience. Obedience is not optional.

John 14:15

“If you love Me, keep my commandments.”

- This is the first time in John that Jesus speaks of our love for Him.
- **Love for Jesus is correlated with OBEDIENCE to Him.**
- **This is an uncompromising **CONDITION**.**
- To Love Christ means to care enough about Him to keep His commandments (v.23-24)
- **If we don't OBEY HIM, we do not love Him.** (1 John 5:2)
- **But, we cannot keep His commandments unless we search the Scriptures to find out what they are. SEE SEPARATE HANDOUT**
- Q. How many church goers call themselves “followers of Christ” yet don't know what Jesus taught and commanded? How can they love Jesus if they don't even know what He commanded, let alone obey them? Is social work and being nice enough? **Is God being glorified?**

John 14:16-17

Promise of the Holy Spirit

- **5 Holy Spirit passages in John** (Paraclete or Parakletos in Greek/Latin, *meaning one called alongside to help. Helper, Counsellor, Comforter, advocate, legal assistant, attorney*)
 - John 14:16-17; John 14:26; John 15:26-27 John 16:7-11; John 16:12-15
- The prospect of doing “greater things” (v.12) links to this passage since it anticipates the need for enabling power.
- “**Another Helper**” implies the disciples already have one (Jesus) who is departing – This title is applied to Jesus in 1 John 2:1 (Advocate or defense attorney) and means that Jesus’ present advocacy is discharged in the courts of heaven, and His earthly advocacy was replaced by the Holy Spirit.
- **Jesus Christ** is the Christian’s Paraclete (advocate) with the Father when the Christian sins – **1 John 2:1** an “Advocate with the Father”, also intercedes for us - Rom. 8:34; Heb 7:25
- **Holy Spirit** is the Christian’s indwelling Paraclete to help our ignorance and infirmity, and to make intercession for us – Rom. 8:26-27.

John 14:17

Identity of the Indwelling Holy Spirit

- John 14:17 ¹⁷ **the Spirit of truth**, whom **the world cannot receive**, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but **you know Him**, for **He dwells with you and will be in you**.
- **Spirit of Truth** - Coming so soon after 14:6 “I am the ... Truth” indicates the Holy Spirit bears witness to the truth that Jesus is God, in addition to many other things, including discerning truth for us (1 Cor. 2:15).
- **The World Cannot Receive** - 1 Corinthians 2:14 ¹⁴ “But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.”
- **You know Him** – This is not a creed – The Holy Spirit is experienced. It is only possible to understand the Spirit once one has experienced the presence of the Spirit. Are you meeting the 5 conditions to be “filled with the Spirit” Eph. 5:18? (See Spiritual Journey diagram).
- **He dwells with you and will be in you** – this is what we refer to as the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We must yield to the Spirit so He can live out the will of Christ through us.

John 14:18-23

Indwelling of Son – “In Christ”

V.20 – “you in Me, and I in you”

- **Most Profound Statement in the Book of John!**
 - This new relationship is the **NT mystery of the body of Christ.**
 - The position of the Church, composed of its members, and the truth of Christ as indwelling the believer, “**in Christ**”, is central to the Pauline doctrine of the Church, and are revealed here to the disciples for the first time by Christ.
 - The indwelling Christ – **Eph. 3:1-7; Col. 1:24-27; Rom. 6:5-11**
 - The living union of the members of the body is explained in John 15:1-11 in the figure of the Vine & Branches. (see Church Age sheet from class 1)
- V.21, 23 – If you love Me, keep my commandments...and I will love him make My home with him” – v. 17 – “the world cannot receive”.
 - **The circle of love is only for disciples, characterized by obedience, but not for the “world”**
 - This is most interpreted as the Holy Spirit, but some think it’s the Trinity

John 14:18-23

The Trinity

After the bad news of Chapter 13, Jesus begins to lay out many promises in Chapter 14:

- **Heaven**
 - That they would do greater works than He did –**since John is all about sharing the gospel of Salvation, and Salvation is a miracle, this is the main point.**
 - He would answer their prayers and provide everything that they needed if it was in His name to His glory and to His purpose.
 - That they're going to continue to work and they're going to continue to be able to have access to the supply that He has in heaven to provide for that ministry.
- **The Trinity will come and live inside you! (v.23) - Wow**
- **Qualification – v.15** – these promises are only for those who love Him and as a result, keep His commandments!, **LOVE & OBEDIENCE** define a true Christian–1 John 2:3; 4:19;
- Obedience starts with obeying the first commandment: “Love the Lord your God, and then the second, your neighbor as yourself.” **Obedience is motivated by Love, not self.**
- Jesus states this principle 4 times in Chapter 14 – v.15, 21, 23, 24
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-1AdUwbWLw>

John 14:26-27

Holy Spirit – Teaches all Things

- **The Holy Spirit will bring to mind of the believer the things of Jesus Christ** – this ultimately enabled the Apostles to write the New Testament
- 1 John 2:19-21 – we have an anointing from God to know the truth

Holy Spirit also:

- He convicts us of sin
- He brings people to Jesus
- He baptizes us into Jesus
- Outliving of the Indwelling Christ– Power Over Sin & in Service
- **Peace** – not conditioned on circumstances, but on faith. It passes understanding: John 16:33; Phil 4:7
- Prince of this world – SATAN – Judas is coming soon with the soldiers to arrest Jesus