

John Chapter Fourteen

Read **John 14:1-6** – Jesus Comforts His Disciples

v.1 “LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED: YE BELIEVE IN GOD, BELIEVE ALSO IN ME.”

Jesus' disciples have enough on their minds to trouble them don't they. One of their number has joined Jesus' enemies and will betray him. Jesus has convinced them that he will die, “BE RAISED UP” like the serpent on the pole in the camp of Israel. They still do not fully understand the reality that the kingdom of God will be a spiritual kingdom, not an earthly kingdom. They only understand that he will be leaving them. They need to hear the same words of encouragement that Isaiah wrote, words written to the redeemed:

Isaiah 43:1-2 “BUT NOW THUS SAITH THE LORD THAT CREATED THEE, O JACOB, AND HE THAT FORMED THEE, O ISRAEL, FEAR NOT: FOR I HAVE REDEEMED THEE, I HAVE CALLED *thee* BY THY NAME; THOU *art* MINE. WHEN THOU PASSEST THROUGH THE WATERS, I *will be* WITH THEE; AND THROUGH THE RIVERS, THEY SHALL NOT OVERFLOW THEE: WHEN THOU WALKEST THROUGH THE FIRE, THOU SHALT NOT BE BURNED; NEITHER SHALL THE FLAME KINDLE UPON THEE.”

Jesus has done a lot of teaching in the more recent days of his ministry to emphasize that He and the Father are one. He stressed that if they believe in God they believe in Him; that He and God are one, and that in the days to come they would be able to see his purpose and their purpose clearly. Now he simply reinforces that if they believe in God, which they do, then they should also believe in Him and be assured that all will be well in due time.

v.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.”

Jesus disciples are troubled and they are about to go through a trial of their faith. His words to console and comfort them are a blessing to all who are children of God. Jesus must die. Jesus must leave this earth. But he's not really “leaving” in the permanent sense of that term. He's going to prepare a place for his disciples, he is speaking to those in his immediate presence, but, in fact, he is providing assurance for all of us. A place that in a time of horrible persecution the Apostle John is allowed to view and describe beginning in:

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Revelation 21:1-2 “AND I SAW A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH: FOR THE FIRST HEAVEN AND THE FIRST EARTH WERE PASSED AWAY; AND THERE WAS NO MORE SEA. AND I JOHN SAW THE HOLY CITY, NEW JERUSALEM, COMING DOWN FROM GOD OUT OF HEAVEN, PREPARED AS A BRIDE ADORNED FOR HER HUSBAND.”

He assures them further that if this were not true then he would have told them. He has held nothing back; he has given them and us all that is required to live a godly life as the Apostle Peter reminds us in **II Peter 1:3**.

v.3 “AND IF I GO AND PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU, I WILL COME AGAIN, AND RECEIVE YOU UNTO MYSELF; THAT WHERE I AM, **there** YE MAY BE ALSO.”

He continues with His promise teaching them that he would come again to retrieve them, and that they would be with him. This is not the first time that He has taught this lesson:

John 12:26 “IF ANY MAN SERVE ME, LET HIM FOLLOW ME; AND WHERE I AM, THERE SHALL ALSO MY SERVANT BE: IF ANY MAN SERVE ME, HIM WILL **my** FATHER HONOR.”

We see this again at his resurrection and subsequent return to the right hand of God. The angels who were in attendance at the scene of his ascension, explain that to those present:

Acts 1:11 “WHICH ALSO SAID, YE MEN OF GALILEE, WHY STAND YE GAZING UP INTO HEAVEN? THIS SAME JESUS, WHICH IS TAKEN UP FROM YOU INTO HEAVEN, SHALL SO COME IN LIKE MANNER AS YE HAVE SEEN HIM GO INTO HEAVEN.”

Jesus will return, return in the same manner as he ascended and when he does:

“THEN WE WHICH ARE ALIVE **and** REMAIN SHALL BE CAUGHT UP TOGETHER WITH THEM IN THE CLOUDS, TO MEET THE LORD IN THE AIR: AND SO SHALL WE EVER BE WITH THE LORD.” **I Thessalonians 4:17**

v.4 “WHITHER I GO YE KNOW AND THE WAY YE KNOW.”

Jesus continues by assuring them that not only do they know where he is going that they also know the way to get there themselves. He has been preparing them for this occasion for some time. We see in:

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Matthew 16:21 “FROM THAT TIME FORTH BEGAN JESUS TO SHOW UNTO HIS DISCIPLES, HOW THAT HE MUST GO UNTO JERUSALEM, AND SUFFER MANY THINGS OF THE ELDERS AND CHIEF PRIESTS AND SCRIBES, AND BE KILLED, AND BE RAISED AGAIN THE THIRD DAY.”

v.5 “THOMAS SAITH UNTO HIM, LORD, WE KNOW NOT WHITHER THOU GOEST; AND HOW CAN WE KNOW THE WAY?”

As we have noted before Thomas was one who was of the disposition to doubt and look on the dark side of things. So he is the one to speak out this time. They did not understand his purpose, they didn't understand his words, they didn't understand the nature of His kingdom until after His resurrection and not really until after the Holy Spirit came upon them. We see this on the day he was raised from the dead. He was walking with two of his disciples to Emmaus and they are discussing the events of the day and voicing their disappointment:

Luke 24:21 “BUT WE TRUSTED THAT IT HAD BEEN HE WHICH SHOULD HAVE REDEEMED ISRAEL: AND BESIDE ALL THIS, TODAY IS THE THIRD DAY SINCE THESE THINGS WERE DONE.”

They were disappointed that he was the one that they expected to redeem Israel, redeem Israel from what? They still expected to see him redeem Israel from the bondage of Rome. Now he is not only dead and buried but gone from the tomb and they don't know where he is. Verse 27 says that beginning with Moses that Jesus taught or expounded to them “IN ALL THE SCRIPTURES THE THINGS CONCERNING HIMSELF.”

v.6 “JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER, BUT BY ME.”

First of all Jesus tells them that He is “THE WAY”. This is the “WAY OF HOLINESS” prophesied by Isaiah:

Isaiah 35:8 “AND AN HIGHWAY SHALL BE THERE, AND A WAY, AND IT SHALL BE CALLED THE WAY OF HOLINESS; THE UNCLEAN SHALL NOT PASS OVER IT; BUT IT **shall be** FOR THOSE: THE WAYFARING MEN, THOUGH FOOLS, SHALL NOT ERR **therein**.”

Secondly He is “THE TRUTH”. Jesus, the Son of God, has become the source of truth for all of mankind. He and only he originated truth, truth that will save our souls, truth that will set us free from the bondage of sin. As John wrote at the beginning of our study:

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John 1:17 “FOR THE LAW WAS GIVEN BY MOSES, *but* GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY JESUS CHRIST.”

Finally He is life, but not just life in the physical realm but “THE LIFE”, life eternal, life forever in the presence of God. Again at the beginning of John’s treatise:

John 1:4 “IN HIM WAS LIFE: AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN.”

As he tells Martha at the resurrection of Lazarus:

John 11:25 “...I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE; HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE.”

Read **John 14:7-14** – Christ and God are One

v.7 “IF YE HAD KNOWN ME, YE SHOULD HAVE KNOWN MY FATHER ALSO: AND FROM HENCEFORTH YE KNOW HIM, AND HAVE SEEN HIM.”

We find that Jesus Christ is the most complete and perfect representation of God that could have been shown to mankind. Consequently if they had known Jesus, and they had followed him for three years, then they knew God as well.

v.8 “PHILIP SAITH UNTO HIM, LORD, SHOW US THE FATHER, AND IT SUFFICETH US.”

Philip’s request seems honest and straightforward doesn’t it? But we ask what more evidence does he need? Paul uses this mindset to contrast the wisdom of God with the foolishness of man in his writing to Corinth:

I Corinthians 1:21-22 “FOR AFTER THAT IN THE WISDOM OF GOD THE WORLD BY WISDOM KNEW NOT GOD, IT PLEASSED GOD BY THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING TO SAVE THEM THAT BELIEVE. FOR THE JEWS REQUIRE A SIGN, AND THE GREEKS SEEK AFTER WISDOM:”

Jesus answers Philip:

v.9 “JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, HAVE I BEEN SO LONG TIME WITH YOU, AND YET HAST THOU NOT KNOWN ME, PHILIP? HE THAT HATH SEEN ME HATH SEEN THE FATHER; AND HOW SAYEST THOU *then*, SHOW US THE FATHER?”

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Jesus had been with his disciples for about three years. They had seen him bring sight to the blind, cast out demons, raise the dead and perform many things that only someone with the power of God could do. He had just finished teaching them lessons on this very subject telling them most recently:

John 12:45 “AND HE THAT SEETH ME, SEETH HIM THAT SENT ME.”

Yet, Philip asks him to “SHOW US THE FATHER?”. I think I would have been as amazed as Jesus seems to be.

v.10 “BELIEVEST THOU NOT THAT I AM IN THE FATHER, AND THE FATHER IN ME? THE WORDS THAT I SPEAK UNTO YOU I SPEAK NOT OF MYSELF: BUT THE FATHER THAT DWELLETH IN ME, HE DOETH THE WORKS.”

Barnes in his commentary gives the literal translation of “THE FATHER THAT DEWELLTH IN ME” as “THE FATHER REMAINING IN ME”. This gives us a picture of a union closer than man can devise or enter, even in our relationship with God. Jesus had taught them:

John 7:16-17 “...MY DOCTRINE IS NOT MINE, BUT HIS THAT SENT ME. IF ANY MAN WILL DO HIS WILL, HE SHALL KNOW OF THE DOCTRINE, WHETHER IT BE OF GOD OR *whether* I SPEAK OF MYSELF.”

And again:

John 10:38 “BUT IF I DO, THOUGH YE BELIEVE NOT ME, BELIEVE THE WORKS: THAT YE MAY KNOW, AND BELIEVE, THAT THE FATHER *is* IN ME, AND I IN HIM.”

v.11 “BELIEVE ME THAT I *am* IN THE FATHER, AND THE FATHER IN ME: OR ELSE BELIEVE ME FOR THE VERY WORKS’ SAKE.”

Again Jesus goes back to a prior teaching where He refers to the witnesses of his deity, his relationship with God:

John 5:36 “BUT I HAVE GREATER WITNESS THAN *that* OF JOHN: FOR THE WORKS WHICH THE FATHER HATH GIVEN ME TO FINISH, THE SAME WORKS THAT I DO, BEAR WITNESS OF ME, THAT THE FATHER HATH SENT ME.”

v.12 “VERILY, VERILY, I SAY UNTO YOU, HE THAT BELIEVETH ON ME, THE WORKS THAT I DO SHALL HE DO ALSO; AND GREATER *works* THAT THESE SHALL HE DO; BECAUSE I GO UNTO MY FATHER.”

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Now Jesus, speaking to the eleven as Judas is gone, tells them that they would be able to do greater works than he did. We see a glimpse of that in his words when he caused the fig tree to wither away:

Matthew 21:21 "...VERILY I SAY UNTO YO, IF YE HAVE FAITH, AND DOUBT NOT, HE SHALL NOT ONLY DO THIS *which is done* TO THE FIG TREE, BUT ALSO IF YE SHALL SAY UNTO THIS MOUNTAIN, BE THOU REMOVED, AND BE THOU CAST INTO THE SEA; IT SHALL BE DONE."

We see also:

Mark 16:17 'AND THESE SIGNS SHALL FOLLOW THEM THAT BELIEVE; IN MY NAME SHALL THEY CAST OUT DEVILS; THEY SHALL SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES.'

And to their amazement:

Luke 10:17 "...THE SEVENTY RETURNED AGAIN WITH JOY, SAYING, LORD EVEN THE DEVILS ARE SUBJECT UNTO US THROUGH THY NAME."

How could the works of the apostles be greater than the works of Christ himself when he was on earth? The effect of Jesus' works was limited to those within his physical presence. The effect of the works of the apostles reached out to the most remote part of the world, convicting, convincing and converting men, providing the opportunity to be cleansed from their sin. This effect was not limited to their physical presence or their lifetime but afterward through their writings, even down to the present day.

v.13 "AND WHATSOEVER YE SHALL ASK IN MY NAME, THAT WILL I DO, THAT THE FATHER MAY BE GLORIFIED IN THE SON."

This promise was made specifically to the eleven but when we as children of God, as Christians ask in faith and in harmony with the will of God we share this blessing. James writes that if we seek wisdom:

"LET HIM ASK IN FAITH, NOTHING WAVERING. FOR HE THAT WAVERETH IS LIKE A WAVE OF THE SEA DRIVEN WITH THE WIND AND TOSSED." **James 1:6**

and the Apostle John:

I John 3:22 "AND WHATSOEVER WE ASK, WE RECEIVE OF HIM, BECAUSE WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS, AND DO THOSE THINGS THAT ARE PLEASING IN HIS SIGHT."

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v.14 “IF YE SHALL ASK ANY THING IN MY NAME, I WILL DO *it*.”

The Apostle John tells us that this is a measure of our confidence, our faith in God:

I John 5:14 “AND THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE HAVE IN HIM, THAT, IF WE ASK ANY THING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARETH US.”

Read **John 14:15-24** – The Comforter

v.15 “IF YE LOVE ME, KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS.”

I don't think we can get a more plain or straightforward explanation than this. If we love God, if we love Christ, we will do what we have been commanded to do, in fact we'll go further than that, won't we? We will look forward to the opportunity to do the work of the Lord. A little further on He turns this around and makes the blessing of his love conditional:

John 15:10 “IF YE KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS, YE SHALL ABIDE IN MY LOVE; EVEN AS I HAVE KEPT MY FATHER'S COMMANDMENTS, AND ABIDE IN HIS LOVE.”

And the Apostle of Love shows how that we show or prove our love for God:

I John 5:3 ‘FOR THIS IS THE LOVE OF GOD, THAT WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: AND HIS COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT GRIEVOUS.’

v.16 “AND I WILL PRAY THE FATHER, AND HE SHALL GIVE YOU ANOTHER COMFORTER, THAT HE MAY ABIDE WITH YOU FOR EVER.”

Jesus would “PRAY THE FATHER”, he would go to God, not just in prayer, in his presence in an attitude of prayer as an advocate, an intercessor, just as John describes in:

I John 2:1 “LITTLE CHILDREN, THESE THINGS WRITE I UNTO YOU, THAT YE SIN NOT. AND IF ANY MAN SIN, WE HAVE AN ADVOCATE WITH THE FATHER, JESUS CHRIST THE RIGHTEOUS.”

In this case he will go to the Father as an advocate or intercessor to secure “ANOTHER COMFORTER”, the one that we know as the Holy Spirit or the Holy Ghost.

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John 15:26 “BUT WHEN THE COMFORTER IS COME, WHOM I WILL SEND UNTO YOU FROM THE FATHER, **even** THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, WHICH PROCEEDETH FROM THE FATHER, HE SHALL TESTIFY OF ME.”

They will need another Comforter because he will no longer be in their midst. He will be leaving them and leaving them very soon, as in a matter of hours and they will need His help and support.

v.17 “**Even** THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH; WHOM THE WORLD CANNOT RECEIVE, BECAUSE IT SEETH HIM NOT, NEITHER KNOWETH HIM: BUT YE KNOW HIM; FOR HE DWELLETH IN YOU, AND SHALL BE IN YOU.”

He calls the Holy Spirit the “SPIRIT OF TRUTH” and indeed he is as Jesus tells them again:

John 16:13 “HOWBEIT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, IS COME, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH: FOR HE SHALL NOT SPEAK OF HIMSELF: BUT WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR, **that** SHALL HE SPEAK: AND HE WILL SHOW THINGS TO COME.”

The world, worldly people “CANNOT RECEIVE” the Spirit because they can neither see or know him. This is confirmed by the Holy Spirit through Paul:

I Corinthians 2:14 “BUT THE NATURAL MAN RECEIVETH NOT THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT OF GOD: FOR THEY ARE FOOLISHNESS UNTO HIM, NEITHER CAN HE KNOW **them**, BECAUSE THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY DISCERNED.”

Many of the denominations teach that we have to receive the spirit in order to be saved, even some of our apostate brethren have taken up this particular doctrine to the extent that some preachers will claim direct guidance from the spirit in some of the things which they do. But both Jesus and Paul refute that notion. The world, natural man, carnal man cannot see, know or enjoy the blessing of having the Spirit dwell within them.

The eleven did have, or had the power of the Holy Spirit, dwelling in them because Christ had given them some measure of the Spirit early in his ministry. (**Luke 10:17**)

v.18 “I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU COMFORTLESS: I WILL COME UNTO YOU.”

Jesus is not going to abandon them, even though he will be crucified. He will be resurrected, he will come unto them again and be with them in all of their works as they carry out the mission he will give them. Matthew records:

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Matthew 28:20 "...AND, LO, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, *even* UNTO THE END OF THE WORLD."

v.19 "YET A LITTLE WHILE, AND THE WORLD SEETH ME NO MORE; BUT YE SEE ME: BECAUSE I LIVE YE SHALL LIVE ALSO."

Jesus explains to his disciples that he will be with them for only a little while, this is the day before his death. He tells them this again at the end of this discourse:

John 16:16 "A LITTLE WHILE, AND YE SHALL NOT SEE ME: AND AGAIN, A LITTLE WHILE, AND YE SHALL SEE ME, BECAUSE I GO TO THE FATHER."

Then in a little while they will see him again and then he will go to the Father. When he returns to the Father; because he lives, then they will live also. This obviously is speaking of eternal life. Though they are physically dead their spirits still live and will live forever.

Hebrews 7:25 "WHEREFORE HE IS ABLE TO SAVE THEM TO THE UTTERMOST THAT COME UNTO GOD BY HIM, SEEING HE EVER LIVETH TO MAKE INTERCESSION FOR THEM."

v.20 "AT THAT DAY YE SHALL KNOW THAT I *am* IN MY FATHER, AND YE IN ME, AND I IN YOU."

Jesus in his prayer later the same night and before his arrest petitions the Father to provide exactly what he has told his disciples:

John 17:21 "THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE: AS THOU, FATHER, *art* IN ME, AND I IN THEE, THAT THEY ALSO MAY BE ONE IN US: THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE THAT THOU HAST SENT ME."

Petitioning his Father that we all might be one, God, Christ and the children of God also beseeching God that we might all be made perfect, or complete. Other versions use "PERFECTLY COMPLETE" (ESV), "PERFECTED" (ASV), another "PERFECTLY UNITED", NASB. He also requests God's love for us equal to that provided to him.

John 17:23 "I IN THEM, AND THOU IN ME, THAT THEY MAY BE MADE PERFECT IN ONE; AND THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW THAT THOU HAST SENT ME, AND HAST LOVED THEM, AS THOU HAST LOVED ME."

v.21 "HE THAT HATH MY COMMANDMENTS AND KEEPETH THEM, HE IT IS THAT LOVETH ME: AND HE THAT LOVETH ME SHALL BE LOVED OF MY FATHER, AND I WILL LOVE HIM, AND WILL MANIFEST MYSELF TO HIM."

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When we no longer work at keeping the commandments of God, what does that condition tell us and those that see us about our love for God? The way we do or don't do the commandments of God is the measure of our real love for God. John writes:

I John 2:5 "BUT WHOSO KEEPETH HIS WORD, IN HIM VERILY IS THE LOVE OF GOD PERFECTED: HEREBY KNOW WE THAT WE ARE IN HIM."

v.22 "JUDAS SAITH UNTO HIM, NOT ISCARIOT, LORD, HOW IS IT THAT THOU WILT MANIFEST THYSELF UNTO US, AND NOT UNTO THE WORLD?"

That's a good question isn't it? Lord, how is it that the world will not be able to see you but you will be manifested to us? They were men just as those in the world are men. But first, just who is this Judas?

Luke 6:16 "AND JUDAS *the brother* OF JAMES AND JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHICH ALSO WAS THE TRAITOR."

So he was the brother of James and another son of Alpheus. In Matthew's account we see him under still another name. In this case he is called Lebbeus or Thaddeus and the name we probably would be most likely to remember.

Matthew 10:3 "PHILIP AND BARTHOLOMEW; THOMAS, AND MATTHEW THE PUBLICAN; JAMES *the son* OF ALPHEUS, AND LEBBEUS, WHOSE SURNAME WAS THADDEUS;"

Jesus answers the question posed by Judas this way:

v.23 "JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO HIM, IF A MAN LOVE ME, HE WILL KEEP MY WORDS: AND MY FATHER WILL LOVE HIM, AND WE WILL COME UNTO HIM, AND MAKE OUR ABODE WITH HIM."

He will be manifested to us through our faith. In order for us to love God and keep his commandments we must first of all have faith in God and his Son Jesus Christ. They will live with us in spirit, not miraculously:

I John 3:24 "AND HE THAT KEEPETH HIS COMMANDMENTS DWELLETH IN HIM, AND HE IN HIM. AND HEREBY WE KNOW THAT HE ABIDETH IN US, BY THE SPIRIT WHICH HE HATH GIVEN US."

And then we hear Jesus as he closes His letters to the seven churches of Asia:

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Revelation 3:20 “BEHOLD, I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK: IF ANY MAN HEAR MY VOICE, AND OPEN THE DOOR, I WILL COME IN TO HIM, AND WILL SUP WITH HIM AND HE WITH ME.”

v.24 “HE THAT LOVETH ME NOT KEEPETH NOT MY SAYINGS: AND THE WORD WHICH YE HEAR IS NOT MINE, BUT THE FATHER’S WHICH SENT ME.”

Jesus tells them and us that if we don’t keep his sayings, his words, his commandments, then it is because we don’t love him. If we’re following somebody’s word in these matters then that word isn’t from Him it’s from somewhere else. Because as he taught earlier:

John 5:38 “AND YE HAVE NOT HIS WORD ABIDING IN YOU: FOR WHOM HE HATH SENT, HIM YE BELIEVE NOT.”

Read **John 14:25-31** – Words of Comfort

v.25 “THESE THINGS I HAVE SPOKEN UNTO YOU, BEING **yet** PRESENT WITH YOU.”

Jesus has already told them that in a very little while he will be leaving them, so he tells them that he’s taking advantage of the opportunity of that short time to provide these words of comfort and encouragement. Then he makes this promise:

v.26 “BUT THE COMFORTER, **which is** THE HOLY GHOST, WHOM THE FATHER WILL SEND IN MY NAME, HE SHALL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS, AND BRING ALL THINGS TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE, WHATSOEVER I HAVE SAID UNTO YOU.”

These men would not only be provided with a “COMFORTER” who would bolster and strengthen them in their work; but who would also miraculously provide them with all that they would require to teach the Word of God and would be able to remember all that he had taught them over the three years that they had walked with him. He repeats this again in several places, one being:

John 15:26 “BUT WHEN THE COMFORTER IS COME, WHOM I WILL SEND UNTO YOU FROM THE FATHER, **even** THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, WHICH PROCEEDETH FROM THE FATHER, HE WILL TESTIFY OF ME.”

And then just before his ascension back to the Father, he gives them specific instructions:

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Luke 24:49 “AND, BEHOLD, I SEND THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: BUT TARRY YE IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM, UNTIL YE BE ENDOWED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH.”

And we see that promise fulfilled on Acts 2.

v.27 “PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU, MY PEACE I GIVE UNTO YOU: NOT AS THE WORLD GIVETH, GIVE I UNTO YOU. LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED, NEITHER LET IT BE AFRAID.”

They are going to face a major crisis. When they fully understand its purpose and receive the revelation that is coming they will then have peace, spiritual peace, not peace such as we have in this world, but a greater more lasting peace. Then he encourages them to not be afraid or troubled by the events that will occur. This is similar to the words of comfort that Paul wrote:

Philippians 4:7 “AND THE PEACE OF GOD, WHICH PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING, SHALL KEEP YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGH CHRIST JESUS.”

It doesn't matter what kind of trouble we have to endure in this short life. The time is coming when we will enjoy a peace beyond the ability of the finite mind of man to understand. All that is required is that we obey the commandments of God and remain faithful to that which “MAKES OUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE.” **II Peter 1:10**

v.28 “YE HAVE HEARD HOW I SAID UNTO YOU, I GO AWAY, AND COME *again* UNTO YOU. IF YE LOVED ME, YE WOULD REJOICE, BECAUSE I SAID, I GO UNTO THE FATHER: FOR MY FATHER IS GREATER THAN I.”

If they loved him they would rejoice because that he said that ye would do away and come again. And as we know the “rest of the story” as a favorite radio commentator used to say, we know why. His going away will provide the means of our salvation from sin. He goes to the Father who will now give him all authority and power in heaven and on earth (**Matthew 28:18**) and to prepare a place for them (**John 14:3**) to join him.

v.29 “AND NOW I HAVE TOLD YOU BEFORE IT COME TO PASS, THAT, WHEN IT IS COME TO PASS, YE MIGHT BELIEVE.”

He has told them these things in order to bolster their faith. They are going to face a few days of trouble enough to destroy men's souls if they don't understand the purpose behind those troubles.

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v.30 "HEREAFTER I WILL NOT TALK MUCH WITH YOU: FOR THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD COMETH, AND HATH NOTHING IN ME."

There will not be time for much more talk or teaching. The prince of this world is coming, old Satan, to do battle with Christ. We observe that Satan doesn't trouble those who have something in common with him, but rather those who don't.

v.31 "BUT THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW THAT I LOVE THE FATHER; AND AS THE FATHER GAVE ME COMMANDMENT, EVEN SO I DO. ARISE, LET US TO HENCE."

This verse is the basis for much of John's teaching in his first epistle, reminding us and encouraging us to follow the example that Christ gave us in keeping the commandments of God. He tells us:

I John 5:2-3 "BY THIS WE KNOW THAT WE LOVE THE CHILDREN OF GOD, WHEN WE LOVE GOD, AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS. FOR THIS IS THE LOVE OF GOD, THAT WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: AND HIS COMMANDMENTS ARE NOT GREVIOIUS."

But if we claim to do so and don't then what are we? John tells us that too:

I John 2:4-5 "HE THAT SAITH, I KNOW HIM, AND KEEPETH NOT HIS COMMANDMENTS, IS A LIAR, AND THE TRUTH IS NOT IN HIM. BUT WHOSO KEEPTEH HIS WORD, IN HIM VERILY IS THE LOVE OF GOD PERFECTED: HEREBY WE KNOW WE THAT WE ARE IN HIM."