

“Relief For Restless Hearts”
John 14:1-3

Introduction:

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
 - To The Gospel Of John:
 - Where, This Morning, We Will Begin:
 - A New Chapter:
 - John 14!
 - The Setting Of Which:
 - Is Still In The Upper Room:
 - Where The Lord Is Eating:
 - His Last Supper With His Disciples!
 - And - Where He Is Giving Them:
 - His Final Instructions!
 - Like Serving:
 - Each Other:
 - As He Just Served Them In Chapter 13!
 - And - Loving:
 - Each Other:
 - Even As He Loved Them!
2. But - As The Night Wore On:
 - The Atmosphere Of That Upper Room:
 - Became Increasingly Gloomy & Dark!
 - Not From The Smoke:
 - Of The Candles That Were Likely Burning:
 - On The Table!
 - But From The Mood:
 - That Was Starting To Overwhelm:
 - The Hearts Of The Disciples:
 - As They Looked Into The Eyes Of Jesus:
 - And Listened To The Words Of Jesus!
3. Because - On Their Part:
 - That Night Was Full Of The Darkness:
 - Of Division & Deception & Even Denial!
 - At The Beginning:
 - Of That Supper:
 - Luke Tells Us That - Among The Disciples:
 - “There Was A Strife Among Them, Which Of Them Should Be Accounted The Greatest!” (Luke 22:24)
 - And - To Address This Division:
 - Jesus Showed Them That The Mark:
 - Of True Greatness:
 - Was Service!
 - Even By:
 - Washing Their Feet!
 - And - No Doubt:
 - All Of The Disciples Felt The Burning Of Shame:
 - Until Their Faces Were Hot And Red!
 - In The Middle:
 - Of The Supper:
 - Jesus Had Already Told The Disciples:
 - Back In 13:21 - That - “One Of You Shall Betray Me!”
 - Even His Own Familiar Friend:
 - Who He Had Just:
 - Served & Eaten With!
 - And This Deception:
 - Caused The Disciples To View Each Other:

- With Great Suspicion!
 - “Lord, Who Is It?” - John Would Ask, Urged On By Peter!
 - But - The Kind Of Deception & Betrayal:
 - Jesus Described Caused:
 - The Disciples To Even Suspect:
 - Themselves!
 - To The Point That:
 - Each One Of Them Would Ask The Lord:
 - “Is It I?” (Matthew 26:22 / Mark 14:19)
 - Not Only That - But At The End Of:
 - John 13 - Jesus Just Told Peter:
 - That That Very Night:
 - 13:38 - “The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice!”
 - And - The Very Prospect:
 - Of Peter’s Denial:
 - Caused Him & All The Disciples:
 - To Feel Great Sorrow, Along With Their Suspicion & Shame!
 - Is It Any Wonder Then Why:
 - Jesus Would Say In 14:1:
 - “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!”
 - Because - Their Hearts:
 - *Were* Troubled!
 - Greatly Troubled & Restless:
 - In Their Souls!
4. But - They Were Also Troubled:
- Because Of The:
 - Distress & Departure & Even Death:
 - That Jesus Had Told Them About:
 - Before!
 - Back In 12:27 - Jesus Told His Disciples:
 - About *His Own* Distress:
 - When He Expressed:
 - “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour? But for this cause came I unto this hour!”
 - Then - Just Moments Before - Jesus Told His Disciples:
 - About *His Own* Departure!
 - In 13:33 - When He Said:
 - “Little children, yet a little while I am with you. Ye shall seek me: and as I said unto the Jews, Whither I go, ye cannot come; so now I say to you!”
 - And Matthew Adds To This Atmosphere:
 - When He Tells Us In Matthew 26:28:
 - That Jesus Also Told His Disciples About:
 - *His Own* “Blood Of The New Testament, Which Is Shed For Many For The Remission Of Sins!”
5. And So - Through What:
- Jesus Shares With His Disciples:
 - About His Own Distress & Departure & Death:
 - Along With What His Disciples:
 - Felt With Jesus That Night!
 - The Atmosphere:
 - In That Room:
 - Became More & More Somber!
 - And So - The First Thing We Find:
 - In John 14 Is That:
1. ***Jesus Confronts His Disciples:***
- About Their Fears & About Their Faith!
 - 14:1 - “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!”

- Jesus Says!
 - “Ye Believe In God, Believe Also In Me!”
- Or - As This Can Also Be Translated:
 - “Believe In God! Believe In Me Also!”
- So - Even Though:
 - There Was Plenty For Those Disciples:
 - To Be “Troubled” About:
 - Jesus Wanted To Confront:
- Their Fears:
 - By Encouraging Them:
 - To Stop Letting Those Fears:
 - Overwhelm And Overcome:
 - Their Hearts!
 - The “Trouble” The Disciples:
 - Felt In Their Hearts:
 - Was Like That Of An Impending Storm:
 - Seen On The Horizon When They Used To Fish On The Sea Of Galilee!
 - Without Knowing What Kind Of Danger They Were In Or:
 - What Kind Of Damage There Would Be!
 - But - Hadn’t Jesus Already Proved:
 - That He Was In Control:
 - Of The “Troubled” Waters:
 - Of Those Kinds Of Storms?
 - When All He Had To Do Was:
 - Say The Words:
 - “Peace, Be Still! And The Wind Would Cease, And There Would Be A Great Calm!” (Mark 4:39)
 - So - When Jesus Says Now:
 - “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!”
 - He Did Not Say This:
 - To Minimize Their Fears!
 - But To Show Them Once Again:
 - That Even In Their Distress:
 - They Did Not Need To Despair!
 - But Instead:
 - Let Their Fears Maximize:
- Their Faith!
 - 14:1 - “Ye Believe In God, Believe Also In Me!”
 - Both Of These Phrases Could Either Be:
 - *Comments* About The Faith:
 - Of The Disciples! Or:
 - *Commands* To The Disciples:
 - About Their Faith!
 - To Keep On Believing! And:
 - To Keep On Trusting:
 - In Both God The Father & In Him!
 - More Than Likely:
 - Both Of These Were *Commands!*
 - Because What The Disciples Were Going Through Was:
 - A Real Crisis Of Faith!
 - And Things Were Not Going To Get Any Better:
 - That Night!
 - And So Jesus Tells His Disciples:
 - To Keep On Believing & Trusting:
 - In God!
 - Because - No Matter What:
 - He Was About To Face!
 - And - No Matter What:

- They Were About To Face!
- God Was Still Sovereign:
 - And In Control Of:
 - All Of The Gloom In That Room!
 - And - All Of The Darkness:
 - Of That Night!
- But - He Also Tells His Disciples:
 - To Keep On Believing & Trusting:
 - In Him!
 - Because - No Matter What:
 - He Was About To Face!
 - And - No Matter What:
 - They Were About To Face:
 - Even That Very Night!
 - He Was Still The Savior:
 - Sent By God:
 - Into This World!
 - And - All Of His Claims:
 - Were Still True!
- And - So Many Times:
 - Jesus Still Needs To Confront Us:
 - For Our Own Fears - And:
 - Our Own Faith!
 - When Our Hearts Are Troubled & Restless:
 - No Matter What The Reason May Be!
 - Perhaps You Are Experiencing:
 - Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Because Of Things Going On:
 - Around You!
 - World Events! Wars!
 - National Events! Inflation!
 - Personal Events! Health!
- Listen To Jesus!
 - “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!”
 - Instead - Let Your Fears:
 - Drive Your Faith!
 - And - “Believe In God! Believe Also In Me!”
 - Jesus Says!
 - Because God Is Still Sovereign:
 - And Still Sits On His Throne!
- Or - Perhaps You Are Experiencing:
 - Trouble In Your Heart:
 - Because Of Things Going On:
 - Inside You!
 - You Worry:
 - About Things You Can’t Control!
 - Or - You Are Weak:
 - When You Are Faced With Temptations & Sins That:
 - “So Easily Beset You!”
- Listen To Jesus!
 - “Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled!”
 - Instead - Let Your Fears:
 - Drive Your Faith!
 - And - “Believe In God! Believe Also In Me!”
 - Jesus Says!
 - Because Jesus Is Still A Savior:
 - And Is Able To “Save You To The Uttermost” When You Come Unto God By Him!
(Hebrews 7:25)

- But - When Jesus Confronts:
 - Our Fears & Our Faith:
 - He Does Not Do It:
 - The Way We Often Do!
 - When We Just Say:
 - “Don’t Worry!”
 - Or - “It’ll All Work Out!”
 - Or Even - “Don’t Worry! Be Happy!”
 - Instead - Jesus Gives Us:
 - Some Very Good Reasons & Promises:
 - To Turn Our Fears Into Faith!
- Because Faith In His Promises:
 - Can Help You Overcome Your Fears!

* Which Is Why In 14:2-3:

2. *Jesus Comforts His Disciples:*

- With Some Great Truths:
 - That Would Bring Relief:
 - To Their Restless Hearts!
 - And - These Truths:
 - Are A Firm Foundation:
 - For The Faith Of Anyone:
 - Who Believes In God As Their Sovereign Lord - And In Jesus Christ As Their Savior!
 - What Are These Truths Of Comfort?
 - 14:2-3 - “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. / 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!”
- Jesus First Comforts:
 - The Hearts Of His Disciples:
 - With The Truth About:
 - A Great Home!
 - Even The Home Of God The Father Himself!
 - 14:2a - “In My Father’s House Are Many Mansions!”
 - Of Course - The “House” That:
 - Jesus Is Talking About:
 - Is The Very Place:
 - From Which He Came!
 - His “Father’s House” Is:
 - Heaven Itself!
 - And He Knows All About It!
 - His “Father’s House” Wasn’t Primarily The Temple:
 - That Stood In Jerusalem At That Time:
 - Which He Also Called:
 - Back In 2:16 - His “Father’s House!”
 - But - That Old Temple Was Meant To Be:
 - Just A Picture Of:
 - The Greater House & Home:
 - Of God - In Heaven Above!
 - But - Jesus Wanted His Disciples To Know:
 - That In God’s Home:
 - There Is Plenty Of Room:
 - For Others To Join Him!
 - God’s Home:
 - Was Always Meant To Be:
 - Their Home Too!
 - “Many Mansions” Does Not Mean:
 - That Heaven Is Like A Large Country Estate:

- Where Separate Homes & Mansions Can Be Built:
 - Divided From Each Other By Yards & Roads & Fields!
 - Instead - There Are Many "Rooms" In:
 - *God's* Heavenly Mansion:
 - Which Has Space To Spare:
 - For Anyone Who Will Come To Him - On His Terms!
 - Through His Only Begotten & Beloved Son, Jesus Christ!
 - And This Truth:
 - Ought To Bring Comfort & Relief:
 - To The Restless Hearts Of:
 - All Of *God's* People!
 - Especially When:
 - You Are Troubled About:
 - The Home That You Have:
 - In This World!
 - How Often Are We Reminded That:
 - As Abraham Was:
 - We Are "Strangers & Pilgrims On The Earth" As Well! (Hebrews 11:13)
 - Believe In This Truth!
 - And You Will Find Relief And Rest:
 - For Your Soul!
 - But Then - Jesus Also Comforted:
 - The Hearts Of His Disciples:
 - With The Truth About:
 - His Great Honesty!
 - In 14:2 - Jesus Adds:
 - "If It Were Not So, I Would Have Told You!"
 - Isn't It A Great Comfort:
 - In Troubling Times - And For - A Troubled Heart:
 - That There Is One:
 - Who Can Be Counted On:
 - To Always Tell You The Truth!
 - Jesus Will Always Tell You The Truth!
 - Because - Not Only Does Jesus:
 - *Know* The Truth - Fully & Completely!
 - Even The Truth About:
 - Heaven!
 - But Jesus Himself:
 - *Is* The Truth!
 - As He Will Say In Just A Few More Verses:
 - 14:6 - "I Am The Way, *The Truth*, And The Life!"
 - Only The Truth:
 - Can Bring Relief To A Restless Heart!
 - Especially In A World:
 - That Is Full Of Lies & Deceit:
 - About The Things That Matter Most!
 - About Matters Of Life And Death!
 - About Matters Of Spiritual Life & Spiritual Death!
 - We Need The Truth More Than Ever!
 - The Truth About God!
 - The Truth About Man!
 - The Truth About Christ!
 - And - Jesus - Through His Word:
 - Will Always Be Honest! And:
 - Will Always Tell Us The Truth!
- But - Another Way Jesus Comforts:
 - The Hearts Of His Disciples:
 - Is With The Truth About:

- A Great Host!
 - A Host Who Prepared The Way For Us:
 - To Enter God's Great Home!
- And - This Great Host:
 - Is Jesus Himself!
 - Who Also Tells Us:
 - 14:2c - "I Go To Prepare A Place For You!"
- Now - When Jesus Said:
 - One More Time:
 - "I Am Going!"
 - I'm Sure The Hearts Of His Disciples Started To Sink:
 - Once Again!
 - After All - He Was Confirming *His Plan*:
 - To Leave Them:
 - That He Told Them About:
 - Earlier!
 - But, This Time Jesus Goes Further:
 - To Reveal That His Departure Is Not Something:
 - Bad Or Sad – But Good!
- Because - Of *His Purpose* In Going!
 - "To Prepare A Place" For Them - And:
 - For All Of His True Disciples!
- Now - This Does Not Mean That:
 - The Rooms In God's Heavenly Mansion:
 - Still Need To Be Built Or Remodeled Or Furnished!
 - As If God Doesn't Already Know Who Belongs In His Home!
- Instead - When Jesus Left To Go To Heaven:
 - Through His Death & Resurrection & Ascension:
 - The Moment He Arrived There:
 - All The Preparation That Was Needed For You:
 - To Make God's Home Your Home:
 - Was Forever Accomplished For You!
- And - When You Arrive In Heaven One Day:
 - Jesus Himself Will Meet You & Greet You:
 - And Will Say To You:
 - "Well Done, Thou Good And Faithful Servant! Enter Thou Into The Joy Of The Lord!" (Matthew 25:21)
 - And - You Can Find Your Own Room:
 - Your Own Place:
 - That Jesus Already Prepared For You!
- What Relief This Truth:
 - Should Bring To Your Restless Heart:
 - When The World Increases Its:
 - Hostility Against God's True Church!
 - Though Rejected By The World:
 - You Will Be Welcomed By:
 - The Gracious Host Of Heaven:
 - Your Lord Jesus Christ!
- And - The Last Way Jesus Comforts:
 - Our Hearts In These Verses:
 - Is With The Truth About:
 - A Great Hope!
 - In 14:3 - Jesus Repeats What He Just Said:
 - In 14:2 - Not As Something:
 - That Might *Possibly* Happen!
 - But As Something That Will *Certainly* Happen!
 - 14:3 - "And If I Go And Prepare A Place For You!"
 - Which He Just Said:

- That He Would Do!
- Then - "I Will Come Again, And Receive You Unto Myself; So That Where I Am, There Ye May Be Also!"
- There Are Three Things In This Verse:
 - That Make It Our Great Hope!
 - Even - Our "Blessed Hope!"
 - That Paul Tells Us About In:
 - Titus 2:13 - "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ!"
- First - The Return Of Christ:
 - To Heaven!
 - Which He Was About To Do:
 - Then! And Has Already Done:
 - Now!
 - Jesus Is In Heaven Today!
 - And Your Place In Heaven:
 - Is Already Prepared!
 - Mint On The Pillow:
 - And Everything:
 - Waiting For Your Arrival!
 - The Return Of Christ:
 - To Heaven Is The First Part Of:
 - Our Great Hope!
 - Because - If He Didn't Return:
- The Second Part Of Our Great Hope:
 - Could Never Happen!
 - Which Is The Reception Of Christ:
 - When He Returns From Heaven To This Earth!
 - Jesus Says Unequivocally:
 - "I Will Come Again, And Receive You Unto Myself!"
 - Of Course - Jesus Will Tell Us More About This Grand Reception:
 - Through The Writings Of His Apostles!
 - But - One Thing We Do Know Is That:
 - One Day - That "Same Jesus, Who Was Taken Up From His Disciples Into Heaven, Will So Come In Like Manner As They Saw Him Go Into Heaven!" (Acts 1:11)
 - That Is - Personally & Visibly & Bodily - In All Of His Glory!
 - And - When He Does Return:
 - He Will *Receive Us*!
 - All Who Believe In Him - And:
 - Belong To Him!
 - Those Who Are Dead In Christ:
 - When He Returns:
 - Will Be Raised To Life!
 - And - Christians Who Are Living:
 - When He Returns:
 - Will Be Raptured To Meet Him In The Air!
 - Even As Paul Tells Us:
 - In 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 - "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: / 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!"
 - And What Does Paul Then Tell Us To Do:
 - With This Great Hope?
 - 1 Thess. 4:18 - "Wherefore comfort one another with these words!"
 - But That's Not Even:
 - The Best Part Of:
 - Our Great Hope!
- Because - The Third Part Is:

- The Reunion With Christ:
 - That Will Never End!
- Which Is The Whole Reason:
 - For Both His Return *To* Heaven & His Return *From* Heaven!
 - It's So That - 14:3c - "Where I Am, There Ye May Be Also!"
- So - Whether You Meet Jesus:
 - In Heaven Or On Earth Or Somewhere In Between:
 - Wherever He Is:
 - You Will Be! And:
 - Wherever He Goes:
 - You Will Go!
- And - You Will Be As Close:
 - As His Disciples Ever Were:
 - When He Was On This Earth!
 - And Even Closer To Jesus:
 - How Can This Be?
 - With Millions Upon Millions:
 - Of Christians:
 - Vying For His Attention?
- I Don't Know:
 - But In Some Way:
 - As Each Of His Disciples Could Consider Themselves:
 - "The Disciple Whom Jesus Loved!" - As John Did!
 - Even So - One Day:
 - Each One Of You, As His Disciple, Will Be Able To Experience:
 - The Clearest, Closest & Most Constant Fellowship With Your Savior:
 - Than You Can Ever Imagine!

Conclusion:

1. And So:
 - This Great Hope:
 - In Jesus - As Your Great Host:
 - Who Will One Day Welcome You:
 - Into Your New, Great Home:
 - Is The Greatest Relief You Can Ever Have:
 - When Your Heart Is Restless Or Troubled!
2. So - Believe In God! Believe Also In Christ!
 - Because Faith In These Promises:
 - From The Lord:
 - Will Help You Overcome Your Fear:
 - From All The Problems:
 - Of This World!

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