

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

Introduction

The fact that **JESUS** said to **HIS DISCIPLES** those leading words in *Vs 1*, "**Let not your heart be troubled,**" indicates that **HE knew that their HEARTS were indeed TROUBLED!**

We know that to be the case because SCRIPTURE tells us that JESUS knows what is in man's HEART!

John 2:24-25—"24 But Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because **he knew all men,** 25 And needed not that any should testify of man: for **he knew what was in man.**"

Matthew 9:4—"And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, **Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?**" [To some scribes who were thinking evil of **JESUS**]

JESUS knew men's HEARTS then, NOT because HE had "E-S-P," but because HE is "G-O-D" and as GOD, HE is OMNISCIENT! AMEN!

No doubt, there are some today who have come here with a **TROUBLED HEART**. If that is the case for you, then I've got some **GOOD NEWS** for you! **JESUS KNOWS what is troubling you! JESUS CARES about you and all that TROUBLES you! And JESUS CAN HELP YOU with what is TROUBLING you!** But in order for **HIM** to help you, you must look to **HIM** in **FAITH** and cast all your care upon **HIM!**

1 Peter 5:7—"Casting all your care upon him; for **he careth for you.**"

I. UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR TROUBLED HEARTS.
Let's look at what was **TROUBLING CHRIST'S DISCIPLES.**

For some time before this point, **JESUS** had been telling **HIS DISCIPLES** of **HIS** coming **SUFFERING, DEATH, BURIAL, and RESURRECTION.** (That would be **TROUBLING** because they cared very much for the **LORD JESUS CHRIST!**)

Their reaction up to this point about JESUS' revelation of this:
In *Matthew 16:22*, **PETER** rebuked **JESUS** by saying "**Be it far from thee LORD: this shall not be unto thee.**"

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

In *Matthew 17:22-23*, it says "**...they were exceeding sorry**" *Mark's* account of the same instance in *Mark 9:31-32*, says "**But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask him.**"

Luke's account of the same instance in *Luke 10:44-45* says that **JESUS** said, "**44 Let these sayings sink down into your ears: for the Son of man shall be delivered into the hands of men. 45 But they understood not this saying, and it was hid from them, that they perceived it not: and they feared to ask him of that saying.**"

When you are told something of this magnitude is coming and you don't understand what you are hearing, that can cause your heart to be TROUBLED!

In *Matthew 20:17-19*, as **JESUS** told them again what was coming, **there is no response recorded!** In *Luke's* account of the same instance in *Luke 18:31-34*, it says in *Vs 34*, "**And they understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken.**"

It appears that the DISCIPLES were TROUBLED to the point of just blocking it out and not wanting to hear or talk about it!

In *Matthew 20:28*, as the **DISCIPLES** were arguing over which of them was going to be the greatest in the **KINGDOM**, **JESUS** told them if they wanted to be great, they needed to become servants and then **HE** said this of **HIMSELF**, "**Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.**" (There is no response recorded!)

In *Matthew 26:1-2*, **JESUS** told them again, and **again there is no response recorded!** (Were they in **DENIAL?** Possibly!)

We saw in *Chapter 13* that **JESUS** had just finished eating the last **PASSOVER** meal with **HIS DISCIPLES**. In that meal **HE** was talking about **HIS BROKEN BODY** and **HIS SHED BLOOD!**

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

So, **ALL** of that talk of **JESUS' SUFFERING, DEATH, BURIAL, and RESURRECTION** was very **TROUBLING** to them!

Then, at the supper table, **JESUS** said that one of **them** was going to betray **HIM**— We saw how that revelation **TROUBLED** the **DISCIPLES** as they **EACH** questioned if they might be the one who would do such a heinous thing!

And then **JESUS** identified that **DISCIPLE** as **JUDAS ISCARIOT** by giving him the sop, but from what we read the **DISCIPLES** didn't understand that. **JESUS** told **JUDAS ISCARIOT**, "*That thou doest, do quickly.*" Whereupon **JUDAS ISCARIOT** left the group and headed off to finish carrying out his betrayal scheme.

JESUS then told them that **HE** was about to leave them and they could not follow **HIM** where **HE** was going (*John 13:33*). That was very **TROUBLING** to the **DISCIPLES** and we see that in what **PETER** had to say in *John 13:36a*.

It is as if **PETER** totally missed **JESUS' new COMMANDMENT** given them in *verses 34-35* about how they were to **LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS JESUS HAD LOVED THEM!** **PETER** was stuck on **CHRIST'S** previous statement in *verse 33*.

PETER'S HEART was very **TROUBLED** with what I call a "*Wait...What?*" moment here. Have you ever had one of those?

So **PETER** asked a question of **JESUS** and this was the beginning of a question and answer session with the **DISCIPLES** that initially increased the **TROUBLE** in their **HEARTS** because of their lack of understanding of **GOD'S WORD!**

PETER asked **HIM**, *Lord, where are You going? (Vs 36a)* **JESUS** doesn't answer **PETER'S** question, but rather made a statement to **PETER** that only brought more questions. (*Verse 36b*)

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

PETER then questioned the **LORD**, "*why cannot I follow thee now?*" (*Vs 37*) (**PETER** sounds like our children did at times, doesn't he? We would've answer "*Because I said so, that's why!*") And so, **PETER** made a statement of his loyalty to **JESUS!** *Vs 37b* – "*I will lay down my life for thy sake.*"

And then **JESUS** predicted that **PETER** would deny **HIM** before the rooster would crow the next morning. (*Vs 38*) Again...**TROUBLING!**

Some further details of this is given in **MATTHEW'S GOSPEL!**

Matthew 26:31–35— "*31 Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. 32 But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. 33 Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. 34 Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. 35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.*

So, **ALL** of this was very **TROUBLING** to **ALL** of **JESUS' DISCIPLES!** And it was that way because they didn't understand the **OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE ABOUT THESE THINGS!**

That is why **JESUS** said what **HE** did after **HIS RESURRECTION** to the two **DISCIPLES** on the road to **EMMAUS:** *Luke 24:25–26*— "*25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?"*

That also why when **JESUS** showed **HIMSELF** alive to the eleven remaining **DISCIPLES** after **HIS RESURRECTION**, **HE** told them what he did in **Luke 24:44–46!**

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

“44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. 45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, 46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:”

*UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR THEIR TROUBLED HEARTS... That is why the next verse in **John 14:1**, JESUS went on to say... “Let not your heart be troubled...”*

And, when the **REALITY** of what **JESUS** said would happen actually did happen to them, then they had trouble dealing with their failures. **PETER** did deny **CHRIST** that night, not once, not twice, but three times just like **JESUS** said! **ALL** of the **DISCIPLES** did forsake **HIM** and flee, just like **JESUS** said!

When the **TRUTH** hit them that **JESUS** knew what **HE** was talking about they were **devastated!** They thought better of themselves than that. They were ready to quit and go back to what they were doing before **JESUS** found them and called them and we will see that when we get to **JOHN 21!**

We’d like to think better of ourselves than that! But, we wouldn’t have done any different than they did? The **WORD OF GOD** had said it was going to happen! **SCRIPTURE** was fulfilled when it did happen!

Now, let’s fast-forward to today! The last year and a half (and even several years before that) have already been some very **TROUBLING TIMES** for us, am I right?! Let’s be honest about it!

The truth is that there are many times in this sin-cursed world where we can find ourselves **TROUBLED** about the **THINGS WE SEE OR HEAR...** or maybe the **CIRCUMSTANCES** either **HAPPENING** or that we are **ANTICIPATING** are about to **HAPPEN!**

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

In the days we have been living in, HEARTS ARE TROUBLED by what we have seen and continue to see!

Things don’t appear to be getting any better, in fact, they appear to be getting worse with each and every passing day!

Many Are Troubled By WHAT HAS HAPPENED...

Many Are Troubled By WHAT IS HAPPENING... and

Many Are Troubled By WHAT IS ON THE HORIZON

THAT APPEARS TO BE GOING TO HAPPEN SOON!

And Many Are Troubled By WHAT MAY OR MAY NOT HAPPEN at ALL!

Just by my talking about it brings a certain **ANXIETY** to some!

So, here is the thing. Our **HEARTS** are often **TROUBLED** in much the same way that **JESUS’ DISCIPLES HEARTS WERE TROUBLED...BY A FAILURE TO UNDERSTAND AND APPLY THE SCRIPTURE!**

That is because we often get **FOCUSED** on the **CIRCUMSTANCES WE SEE** than on **GOD** and **HIS WORD!**

SO, UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR TROUBLED HEARTS!

II. UNDERSTAND THE REMEDY FOR TROUBLED HEARTS!
JESUS gives it in *Vs. 1b*—“...ye believe in God, believe also in me.”
(The remedy is FAITH in GOD and the LORD JESUS CHRIST!)

In what **JESUS** knew of **HIS DISCIPLES HEARTS**, it was a given that they **BELIEVED GOD!** Note that **JESUS** did not question their **BELIEF in GOD!** **JESUS** stated their **BELIEF** and simply told them “**BELIEVE ALSO IN ME.**”

By the way, **FAITH in GOD, i.e. BELIEVING HIM,** is absolutely necessary if you are going to have **ANY** chance of having a **REMEDY** for a **TROUBLED HEART** in this **TROUBLED WORLD!**

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

The **DISCIPLES'** problem was **NOT** that they didn't **BELIEVE GOD!** Their problem was that they lacked in their **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of **GOD'S WORD** and **GOD'S WAYS!** They needed to just **BELIEVE JESUS** when **HE** told them what was going to happen was according to **GOD'S WORD** and **WILL!**

So, **JESUS** said, *"...ye BELIEVE in GOD, BELIEVE also in ME!"*

Now, had what **JESUS** said was going to happen to **HIM** been **PROPHESED** in **GOD'S WORD** in the **OLD TESTAMENT?** **YES,** it most certainly had! In fact, **after HIS RESURRECTION,** **JESUS showed them all of those things very clearly!**

So, the problem was **NOT** with **GOD** or **HIS WORD!** **GOD** revealed all the reality about **MESSIAH** not only coming into the world, but that **HE** would be *"cut off"* (as **DANIEL PROPHESED**) meaning that **HE** was going to die! But **GOD'S WORD** also revealed that **HE** would **NOT** stay in the grave, but come out of the grave very much alive again! And this was **ALL NECESSARY** for our **SALVATION!**

The **DISCIPLES,** however, lacked in their **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of **GOD'S WORD,** so they were confused at this point and they would be even more confused until **JESUS** would come out of the grave and teach them from the **SCRIPTURES** those things concerning **HIM!**

But, at this moment, they needed to just **BELIEVE JESUS** though they didn't understand!

Now think about this...if your **HEART** is **TROUBLED,** could it be from a lack of **KNOWLEDGE** and **UNDERSTANDING** of **GOD'S WORD?** We **may not** fully understand what is happening right now...And we may be confused by **many of the things that we see and/or hear** and by much of what's going on in this world right now!

GOSPEL OF JOHN
JESUS AND TROUBLED HEARTS
JOHN 14:1

And there may be some things that we are going to experience as the coming of the **LORD JESUS CHRIST** for **HIS** own draws near, but **UNDERSTAND THIS—** We can fully **TRUST GOD** and **HIS WORD!**

WE MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND, BUT WE MUST FULLY TRUST THE LORD TO KEEP FROM BEING TROUBLED!

WE CAN TRUST THE LORD TO DO WHAT HE SAYS IN HIS WORD—WITHOUT EXCEPTION!

WE MUST BE IN THE WORD MORE THAN EVER BEFORE TO KEEP OUR HEARTS FROM BEING TROUBLED!

Conclusion

I'm going to cut this off here, but I reserve the right to say more about it next time we come back to this verse and the verses that follow!

Of primary importance today is **DO YOU KNOW THE LORD?**

You may say, **I BELIEVE IN GOD,** well **JESUS** says **BELIEVE ALSO IN ME!**

Have you taken the initial step of **FAITH** in **BELIEVING CHRIST** for your **SALVATION!** Because until you do that, you will remain **TROUBLED!** And if **CHRIST** returns and you haven't placed your **FAITH** in **HIM** for **SALVATION,** then you will be left behind to go through the most **TROUBLESOME** time in this world—**THE TRIBULATION PERIOD!**

If you **KNOW CHRIST,** take comfort from **HIS WORD AND BELIEVE HIM!** But in order for you to do that you actually have to **BE IN HIS WORD!** *Romans 10:17— "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*