

Morning Sermon November 25, 2018
"Comforting Words from Christ" John 14:1-6

I. Consider Christ's comforting words in their toward-
the-cross context –

"Let not your heart be troubled... (John 14:1 A NKJ)

Why might the disciples' hearts be troubled?

1. Christ has been speaking about His death –

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself." ³³
This He said, signifying by what death He would die. (John 12:32-33 NKJ)

^{NKJ} Matthew 26:1 Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, *that* He said to His disciples, ² "You know that after two days is the Passover, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." (Matthew 26:1-2 NKJ)

2. Christ has been speaking about going away to a place His disciples cannot come, at least not immediately –

³³ "Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, 'Where I am going, you cannot come,' ... (John 13:33 NKJ)

Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward." (John 13:36 NKJ)

Why might our hearts be troubled?

1. We live in a sin filled world
2. We struggle with our own sins
3. We see God and Heaven through a glass darkly –

¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. (1 Corinthians 13:12 NKJ)

II. Consider within these comforting words there is a call
to a vital faith –

you believe in God, believe also in Me. (John 14:1 B NKJ)

1. We are called to walk by faith not sight –
For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Corinthians 5:7 NKJ)

2. We are called to trust God's and Christ Word and not the world,
our ears, meaning hearing preaching, more than our eyes -
So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
(Romans 10:17 NKJ)

III. Consider Christ's comforting words are not just words
but contain real comforting content –

1. Christ is leaving them is to a glorious place –

² "In My Father's house are many mansions... (John 14:2 A NKJ)

A. The Greek word translated "mansions" simply means dwellings,
but I believe in this context it is rightly translated "mansions."
In fact, it would not be too much to translate this word
"castles" as we are made by Christ, kings and priests –

For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, ¹⁰ And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth." (Revelation 5:9-10 NKJ)

B. Revelation 5:9-10 Teaches us, Christ not only left His disciples for His Father's House, and will prepare a place for them; but He also prepares us by His death on the cross –

and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)

2. Consider Christ's teaching about this place to be absolutely
TRUE –

if it were not so, I would have told you. (John 14:2 B NKJ)

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus Christ is the truth in two ways:

A. He is the truth against all falsehoods, false teachings, false religions, seeming ways to God ...

B. He is the truth compared to all types and shadows, the Old Testament tabernacle, the offering of lambs, all of these were

meant to point to Christ, they are signs, He is the Truth, the Reality they are meant to point to! In this sense even our sun and even all the greatest stars are mere shadows compare to Christ Who is the TRUE LIGHT and glory of God –

²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its Light. (Revelation 21:23 NKJ)

3. Christ is leaving them for a grand purpose –
I go to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2 C NKJ)

Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. ² Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. ⁴ "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." ⁵ Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." (Revelation 21:1-5 NKJ)

4. This purpose is one Christ promises to complete for His people's real benefit -

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. (John 14:3 NKJ)

5. This place is a place all true Christians should have a growing knowledge of already:

A. Christ tells us that we know this place – ⁴ "And where I go you know, and the way you know. (John 14:4 NKJ)

- The place is the place we will be with Christ and God, see Revelation 21:1-5
- It is a place where sin, death, pain, tears are dealt with, knowing Christ means we know this place.

B. It is right for us to be humble about our knowledge –

⁵ Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" (John 14:5 NKJ)

IV. Consider Jesus Christ Himself is the only Way, to this place; He is the Truth we know about this place; and He is the Life of this place, along with God the Father (and Holy Spirit) – and there is absolutely no other way –

⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6 NKJ)

1. Christ is the only WAY to Heaven, the only way to be saved is to become a Christian –

"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NKJ)

- A. This militates against political correctness
- B. This militates against the teachings of many false churches

2. Christ is the Truth, in this context primarily what is in view is the TRUTH about God –

"If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him." ⁸ Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? (John 14:7-9 NKJ)

¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared *Him*. (John 1:18 NKJ)

3. Jesus Christ is the LIFE, the LIFE of Heaven, our LIFE now –

"The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. (John 10:10 NKJ)

⁶³ "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life. (John 6:63 NKJ)

⁶⁶ From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. ⁶⁷ Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" ⁶⁸ But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ "Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (John 6:66-69 NKJ)

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