

“From Troubled to Triumphant!”
John 14:6-21 (also remember 14:1)

I. *Access to God (the Father)–*

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 (NKJV)**

1. *It is His death on the cross that tore the veil –*

⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit. ⁵¹ Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; ... Matthew 27:50–51 A (NKJV)

2. *The veil was a barrier to most of the Jews and all Gentiles! Access to God, going into the Holy of Holies was the privilege of the High Priest and that just once a year. But tearing of the veil was because Jesus Christ’s death PAID the debt of sin and made access open for all who would come to God through Jesus Christ –*

¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16 (NKJV)

3. *Scripture tells us clearly –*

... without shedding of blood there is no remission. Hebrews 9:22 (NKJV)

II. *Knowledge of God (the Father)-*

⁷ **“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’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. ¹¹ Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. John 14:7–11 (NKJV)**

1. *In the very beginning of John’s Gospel, we were told something of how Jesus shows us the Father –*

A. *He is the Word made flesh –*

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. John 1:1–2 (NKJV)

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NKJV)

- He is the eternal Son of God. He has always been with God; He always has been God and with God.
- Made flesh means He became a human being, a man.

- B. The only begotten means He is different in the most dramatic way(s) from mere human beings, particularly in “grace” and “truth”

2. In the cross we see God’s Love and grace –

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16 (NKJV)

- A. *Man by his sins put Jesus on the cross, in this they show their hatred for God.*
- B. *In comparison to God Who is our Creator, we are small, puny, insignificant creatures, because of our hatred of God, we sin against Him, try to hurt Him.*
- C. *We are like fire ants ...*

Now we destroy fire-ants without hardly thinking about it. As soon as they bite, we smash and crush, and maybe we spray or use other means to destroy ALL of them? We don’t aim to find out which ones actually bit us! We don’t decide to save some, by pure mercy. We definitely do not teach them and help them not to bite us, that we might have a relationship with them.

We do not become a fire ant ... But if somehow we did it would be LESS of a condescension than God made becoming a Man. We see God’s mercy in the cross, which is different from, higher than anything we have naturally in ourselves –

⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. ⁸ “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the LORD. ⁹ “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:7–9 (NKJV)

III. The Availability of God’s Power as We Ask (pray) -

¹² “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. John 14:12–14 (NKJV)

- 1. *We will be enabled to do great works, by God’s power - :12 B*
- 2. *Because Jesus goes to the Father - :12 B*
- 3. *When we ask, pray in Jesus’ Name we will get what we ask for - :13*

- A. *Jesus’ Name gives our prayers authority, like a signed check.*
- B. *Jesus’ Name means that authority is for the asking for things that would honor His Name, great and even “greater works” according to Jesus’ definition of greater, things that glorify God, things that work to fulfil His purposes - :13-:14*

C. When we are truly His we desire these best things, and God is glad to give them to us –

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly. ¹² O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You! Psalm 84:11–12 (NKJV)

This was the case even before Jesus died because God was gracious to those who looked forward to what He would do, just like He is gracious to us who look back at what He has already done!

IV. We should be praying for an ability to keep Christ's commands –

¹⁵ “If you love Me, keep My commandments. ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—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. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰ At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. ²¹ He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” John 14:15–21 (NKJV)

1. Verse :15 brings us back to verse :1 where Jesus said –

14 “Let not your heart be troubled;... John 14:1 (NKJV)

A. Their hearts were troubled because Jesus was going to die!

B. Their hearts were troubled because of their own sin, He told them they would deny Him and they would be scattered.

C. Their hearts are troubled because they really do LOVE Jesus; because of that love they really don't want Him to die, and they are also SAD about the fact, they do and will fail Him ...

2. There is a sense there is nothing wrong with their sadness, Jesus was sad when Lazarus died –

³⁵ Jesus wept. ³⁶ Then the Jews said, “See how He loved him!” John 11:35–36 (NKJV)

3. Nothing wrong with CRYING, it is a beautiful expression of love, but because of what Jesus would accomplish for them they are or soon would be CAPABLE of MORE THAN CRYING ...

A. Jesus' death gave them access to God!

B. Knowledge of God

C. It plugged them into His / God's power through PRAYER / Asking ...

4. Now they could LOVE by Keeping God's / Christ's Commands, even His New Commandment John 13:34-35 –

They are able to keep Christ's commandments because they have another Helper -

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—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. John 14:16-17

They (WE) GET The Holy Spirit –

A. *He abides with them (us) FOREVER - :16*

B. *He is called another Helper in relation to Christ as a Helper. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are all our Helpers when we seek to love God by keeping His commands -:16*

1 **God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1 (NKJV)**

⁷ **Yet man is born to trouble, As the sparks fly upward. Job 5:7 (NKJV)**

C. He is the Spirit of Truth - :17

This is a wonderful thing because we live in a world full of lies and liars!

:18 Jesus has not left us orphans, we are not alone, we are more than provided for ...

*:19 -20 The little while verses – Thursday, Friday, Saturday were **LONG** days until Sunday Came –*

Their keeping Commandments, Loving Jesus days, were fast approaching ... they would LOVE by the power of God's Spirit ...

*We are called to LOVE in the midst of trials / trouble too ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷ that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of **Jesus Christ**, ⁸ **whom having not seen you love**. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹ receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls. 1 Peter 1:3–9 (NKJV)*

A Prayer for Christ-like Obedience to God's Commands -

From prayer that asks that I may be Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee,
From fearing when I should aspire, From faltering when I should climb higher, From
silken self, O Captain, free Thy soldier who would follow Thee. From subtle love of
softening things, From easy choices, weakenings, (Not thus are spirits fortified, Not
this way went the Crucified)
From all that dims Thy Calvary, O Lamb of God, deliver me. Give me the love that leads
the way, The faith that nothing can dismay, The hope no disappointments tire, The
passion that will burn like fire;
Let me not sink to be a clod: Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God.

Amy Carmichael

Arnold A. Brevick