

Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled

John 14:1-3, 27-28, 16:16, 22, 33, 18:37; Colossians 3:1-3; Titus 2:13; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Acts 8:39; 1 Corinthians

06-07-2020

Bible Verse

John 14:1-3 (NIV)

¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God ; believe also in me.

²My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note:

The backdrop:

One chapter earlier we see that Jesus has washed the disciple's feet to leave an example of servant hood. He has instituted the first Lord's supper. He mentions several times that one of the 12 will betray him. In the middle of the Lord's supper, the Bible says Satan enters Judas who goes out into the dark of night to betray Him. And in the final verses of chapter 13, Jesus informs Peter that he will deny Him 3 times. So while everything around Him is unraveling, Jesus says, "Let not your heart be troubled!" With His betrayal hours away, He spends the next 3 chapters (14-16) teaching His disciples how NOT to fall apart when everything around them DOES. We note that in all 3 chapters He promises the coming of the Holy Spirit. In John 15 He teaches them daily dependence on Him—they are the branches and He is the vine. And He repeatedly promises His return from heaven at a future time. Then in chapter 17 He offers His high priestly prayer for the twelve, and by default all the rest of us—that we would be kept from the evil one, that we would be sanctified by the truth of His word, and that we would be one in Him.

So back to the text. With everything about to explode around them, He gives His disciples 3 ANCHORS to hold them steady when the bottom falls out:

First, the anchor of **FAITH**:

1. You believe in God, believe also in Me. As you have believed in God—in the same way, on the same level, with the same reverence, with the same confidence, believe also in Me. Jesus had said openly throughout His ministry that He was God the Son.

When Pilate asked Him, “Are you a king?” Jesus replied, “You say rightly that I am a king”

Bible Verse

John 18:37 (NIV)

³⁷“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

He told the enraged Pharisees, “Before Abraham was, I AM” which was a clear title given by God Himself to Moses. When Moses asked God who he should say had sent him to Pharaoh, God said: “Tell them I AM has sent me to you.” Jesus said, “I AM the I AM that sent Moses!” When the chief priests and elders asked Him, “Are you the Son of God?” Jesus replied, “You rightly say that I am...and hereafter the Son of Man will sit on the right hand of the power of God.” He never denied it! So Jesus tells the disciples, whose world is about to fall apart, to place their full trust and faith in Him on an equal level with God.

Have you placed your faith, not just in God, but in Christ Jesus His Son?

The FIRST ANCHOR that protects us from a troubled heart is placing full and complete confidence and faith in God the Son.

The second anchor JESUS gave is about where you place your **FOCUS**... Jesus said:

2. In my Father’s house are many mansions

Bible Verse

John 14:2 (NIV)

²My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

Here, Jesus turns our eyes, not to the world that is, but to the world that's coming. He turns our attention to the Father's house, which is in heaven. He's telling them: "I'm going back to where I came from...and when I get there I'm going to prepare a place JUST FOR YOU! The word John uses in the Greek here means, "A secure place of your own." The idea is that Jesus is giving individual attention to YOUR future home in heaven! On your arrival you will be greeted individually with a welcome and taken to the place He personally prepared for you!

So in our text, Jesus is telling the 12 whose world is about to come apart in the natural with his arrest and crucifixion—"Look past where you are to the place where you're going!"

The Apostle Paul wrote,

Bible Verse

Colossians 3:1-3 (NIV)

¹Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

²Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

³For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

Jesus tells them 2 chapters later,

Bible Verse

John 16:33 (NIV)

³³"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

The first anchor for a peaceful heart is your **FAITH**; the second anchor is your **FOCUS**. The third anchor is about where to put your **HOPE**. Jesus said:

3. I will come again

Bible Verse

John 14:3 (NIV)

³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

The Bible says the church is,

Bible Verse

Titus 2:13 (NIV)

¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

Jesus promised them repeatedly that He was going to return to this earth to take them (and us) to our glorious home in heaven.

Bible Verse

John 14:27-28 (NIV)

²⁷Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

²⁸“You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

In 16:22 He again says,

Bible Verse

John 16:16 (NIV)

¹⁶Jesus went on to say, “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.”

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Custom

In 16:22 He again says,

Bible Verse

John 16:22 (NIV)

²²So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

So this verse in John 14:3 is a rapture passage! Paul the Apostle beautifully describes it's fulfillment:

Bible Verse

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NIV)

¹³Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

¹⁵According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

The phrase “caught up” means “to snatch away, to seize forcefully.” One of the best pictures we have of this is of Philip who, after leading the Ethiopian eunuch to Christ and baptizing him, it says:

Bible Verse

Acts 8:39 (NIV)

³⁹When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

And then, “But Philip appeared in a city called Azotus” (8:40). He just appeared in another city!

Bible Verse

Acts 8:40 (NIV)

⁴⁰Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

Likewise when Jesus returns, the Spirit of God will snatch the church away, and just as the Eunuch never saw Philip again, the world will never see us again. We will “appear” with Jesus in the clouds to be taken to heaven. What a day that will be! Paul again speaks of this in 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

Bible Verse

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 (NIV)

⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—

⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

New International Version (NIV)

Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV® Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Note

The word “changed” means to exchange one thing for another. At that glorious moment we shall exchange bodies that die for those that don’t. Bodies that get sick for those that don’t. Bodies that hurt for those that don’t. Bodies that experience temptation for bodies that don’t! Say with me, “Let not your hearts be troubled!” Place your **FAITH** in Him, your **FOCUS** on what’s coming, and your **HOPE** in the Lord’s return!