

Let Not Your Hearts Be Troubled (John 14:1-6)

Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵ Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶ Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

A. Healing for Heart Trouble (vv. 1-2)

1. "Troubled" is *tarasso* in Greek and means to be "stirred or agitated"
 - a. "Father" is used fifty-three times in John chapters 13-17.
 - b. "Home is the place that, when you arrive there, they have to take you in." Robert Frost
2. The Greek word *mone* means rooms or abiding places.
3. Knowing that Jesus is preparing a place for us takes the fear out of death.

B. Having a Home (vv. 3-4)

1. This is a clear promise of the Lord's return for His people.
2. Even though Jesus had to leave His disciples for a time, they knew the way home.
3. This answers Peter's question in 13:36 "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward."
4. Knowing we have a home in heaven neutralizes the anxieties of life.

C. Help for Hesitation (vv. 5-6)

1. Thomas' question ("How can we know the way?") revealed his deep desire to be with Jesus ("Let us also go, that we may die with him" - John 11:16).
2. The response of the disciples shows that sometimes you can have all the information, but you can't always put it together.
3. Jesus words, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" are the sixth of Jesus' seven "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John (6:48; 8:12; 10:9, 11; 11:25; 15:1).
4. Knowing that Jesus is the Way gives us courage to stand for Truth.

Postscript: "When Peter said in John 13:37, "I will lay down my life for Your sake," he indicated he was ready to die for Jesus. Unfortunately, he was not ready at this point to live for Him. He was ready to attack single-handedly a cohort of soldiers with his sword (John 18:10), but he was not willing to wash the feet of his brothers as Jesus had just done (John 13:4). Actually, Peter had things backward. Christ was about to lay down His life for Peter, instead of Peter laying down his life for Christ."

A.T. Lincoln in The Gospel According to St. John

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