

## NOT MY JESUS

Reclaiming the Truth, Rejecting the Idols

### LESSON 4 – PARTICIPATION TROPHY JESUS

*“Don’t let your heart be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>If I go away and prepare a place for you, I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to where I am going.”<sup>5</sup> “Lord,” Thomas said, “we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you know me, you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” **John 14:1-7 (CSB)***

#### JESUS COMFORTS HIS DISCIPLES

1. This conversation took place on the same night Jesus was arrested and betrayed. His disciples were confused and upset because Jesus had just **predicted** His betrayal by Judas (*“When Jesus had said this, he was troubled in his spirit and testified, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.” **John 13:21 (CSB)** and Peter’s denial (*“Jesus replied, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly I tell you, a rooster will not crow until you have denied me three times.” **John 13:38 (CSB)***).*

- A. Jesus **comforts** them with a bold and memorable assurance of His identity and mission and the certainty they can find in Him alone.

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. <sup>4</sup>He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any kind of affliction, through the comfort we ourselves receive from God.” **2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (CSB)***

**Quote** ~ “God comforts us to make us comforters, not to make us comfortable.” ~ Ray C. Stedman

2. Knowing who Jesus is allows us to trust His **plan**. Believing in Jesus is the same as believing in God because Jesus is one with the Father.
  - A. Scripture doesn’t specifically address all the trouble in the disciples’ hearts. **Fears** have a way of becoming doubts. For the troubled and confused disciples, the solution to their anxiety would be found in trusting Jesus.
  - B. This call to faith is not an intellectual agreement but a deep **reliance** on the person and work of Christ. This is the same call for believers today: to place full trust in the sovereign, unchanging Christ in the midst of life’s uncertainties.
 

*“For everything was created by him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through him and for him” **Colossian 1:16 (CSB)***

#### THE WAY TO THE FATHER

1. Jesus also reassures His disciples by **shifting** their focus from earthly troubles to eternal promises.

*“Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 17 For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. 18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (NIV)*

- A. The “Father’s house” (v. 2) represents heaven, and the promise of “many rooms” reflects the vastness of God’s **provision** for His people.
- B. Jesus speaks of preparing a **place** for His followers (v. 2), which is a powerful declaration that He is the only One who can secure our eternal dwelling with God. With Jesus, our eternal life is secure.

**Quote** ~ “Not only is Jesus preparing a place for us, but he’s preparing us for that place.” ~ **Rick Gregory**

- 2. Thomas’s asked a question in (vs 5) represents the **confusion** and doubt that many believers experience. “Lord,” Thomas said, “we don’t know where you’re going. How can we know the way?”
  - A. He desires clarity about the path to eternal life. In asking this, Thomas gives voice to the longing for **assurance** that resonates in the hearts of all Christians.
  - B. His uncertainty opens the **door** for one of Jesus’s most profound statements about His identity and role in salvation.