

Intimacy with Father, Son and Spirit

Session 21: Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life (Jn. 14: 4-6)

I. REVIEW

- The primary theme that Jesus speaks to His disciples about in John 13-17 is the subject of God's love and glory.

Jesus' main objective is to lead us into the revelation of God's divine love and the experience of the glory that He possessed with His Father before the foundations of the earth.

Our destiny is to be completely enveloped into the eternal fellowship of the Godhead forever.

⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor. 1:9)

⁴...and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. (1 Jn. 1:4)

²²"And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one..." (Jn. 17:22)

- As love progressively grows colder, Understanding the Trinity and Intimately engaging with them as our source of leadership is imperative.

- Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. (Phil. 2:5-7)

The ultimate sacrifice that reveals God's humble love is found in Jesus' display of the nature of His love for the Father, His Disciples, and His enemies.

As men, as humanity we are so preoccupied to make sure all those that do wrong against us receive their due punishment. While Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected in HOPE that humanity can see that the basis of their hearts and thinking is rooted in evil not in Love.

- Jesus' humility is revealed in the cross, His leadership in our lives, the administration of the agenda of God for the nations (***Isa. 49-55***), and Jesus' leadership in the ages to come as the Servant of Rulers (***Isa. 49:7***). It is the reason for which He came and will come again to serve.

⁷This is what the Lord says—the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel—to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: "Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you." (Isa 49:7)

⁴⁵"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Mk. 10:45)

³⁷"... when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them." (Lk. 12:37)

- John 13 is deeply connected to John 14 in that Jn.13 primarily points towards Jesus' preparation on the cross to provide us access to the Father and His House.

- Jesus message in the **Upper Room** that final week (Jn 13-17) was the ultimate and most precious message Jesus gave His entire ministry. It is the preeminent message of ministry. And it is summed up like this....'I am the way, the truth and the life apart from Me you cannot endure this world or escape its grasp. I am the only way to the Father'

II. THOMAS' QUESTION ABOUT THE WAY TO THE FATHER

⁴*"And where I go you know, and the way you know."* ⁵*Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" (Jn. 14:4-5)*

- Moments earlier to this led to Peter's rebuke at the end of Ch. 13. Jesus told them that they should know where He was going because He had just told them—the Father's house. Much earlier, He had told them He would return to the Father in (Jn. 7:33).

- **Where I go you know:** Jesus told them on at least three occasions that He would be killed (Mt. 16:21-23; 17:22-23; 20:17-19). However, they had a strong bias or presupposition that the Messiah could not be killed by His enemies. Jesus was alerting them that they had strong personal biases that hindered their ability to understand that He would die on the cross to prepare a place for them.

- The same mindset applies today with the return of the Lord. We have a Christian world that through their bias and presuppositions harden their hearts like the apostles did to what Jesus was saying to them.
- Jesus warned them of His death and the troubles that would follow, as He warns the final generation of the troubles that will face them.
- The Disciples at the time could not hear or make sense of what Jesus was telling them because of the bias of their heart and the inability to surrender to God's plan, as today the idea of humanity walking through the prophecies in the book of Revelation, Daniel and many of the minor prophets of the OT has caused biased hearts to cause major confusion in the hearts of Jesus' followers and the very mention of such times causes debate and spiteful feeling to arise.
- Just as Jesus was trying to convey to the disciples that His death would lead to their death, the prophecies of the end times lays out similar plans. That following Jesus will cause the modern evil world to react in the same manner the ancient evil world did.

- And just as Jesus was conveying the solution to all these problems was Him, and that the proof of it was His resurrection, His promise was that He was the first fruits of that proof, and He promised to return after He went to prepare a place, and He promised to give Joy and Peace in those that escaped the world and places their trust in Him.

While the disciples failed to hear at first, they saw in three days' time the truth Jesus spoke, they went from disciples to Apostles and died willingly for Jesus' sake.

2000 years later that same courage and message is rising up, this time the stakes are much higher, but so is the reward. We have to believe and look for the proof in an intimacy that most people think is foolish, against 2,000 years of bias and presuppositions of the faith world that has been tarnished by an evil world.

- The same message Jesus gave to the disciples on that final week, is the most important message to believers that have made the choice to say Jesus is my savior. It's a message of **All In, In Him** because your life depends on it.

- We must be committed to receive Jesus' teachings, even when they are challenging. The propensity of human heart is to read Scripture according to our biases. It takes intentionality to receive what Jesus says and to base our lives on it.

²⁶But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; ²⁷and the rain descended, the floods came...great was its fall. (Mt. 7:26-27)

- ***We do not know where:*** Thomas spoke for the others in saying, "We do not know where You are going" (14:5). Thomas' question expressed the confusion that he and the others had about Jesus' destination. Here, Jesus also addressed Peter's question concerning where He was going (13:36).

They were not sure what going to "the Father's house" implied—a new temple? (Mt. 24:2). Without knowing where Jesus was going, Thomas was saying that he did not know the way to get there.

²¹"I am going away...where I go you cannot come..." ²⁷He spoke to them of the Father. (Jn. 8:21, 27)

The view from the disciples was so filled with bias and presuppositions based on fear and self-preservation that they could not see clearly what Jesus was saying. They heard the words He said, but they did not understand its meaning and purpose because their starting point was different than Jesus'.

- Jesus clarified "where" He was going—to the Father's presence (13:1; 14:6; 14:28; 16:16-17, 28). Their bias were so strong and so deeply rooted in fear and self-preservation that it took them seeing the resurrected body, and even in Thomas' case, He had to put his fingers in Jesus' wounds to overcome the fears that this life was not the only one to live for. Jesus promised an Age to Come.

- Jesus promised them to fly and all they have seen is people fall to their deaths. So when Jesus said in me if you jump you will fly, their hearts trembled because they Loved Jesus, but didn't believe Him.

- Then Jesus tells them this:

‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (Jn. 14:6)

As if setting the stage for the disciples and all of humanity that will follow, that despite your bias, His way is the only way. Jump with Him!!

III. JESUS THE WAY

- Jesus' going to the cross to prepare and fully secure our place in the father's House.

²“...I go to prepare a place for you...³I will come again and receive you to Myself...” (Jn. 14:2-3)

Many think Jesus died a martyr. They **do not understand** the purpose of His death as set forth in Rom 3:25-26²⁵***God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished—***²⁶***he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.***

Through Jesus, He simplified all of sins debt and made the announcement to the world that only through Him and in Him can you cancel the wages of sin.

- Jesus even further simplifies this notion, because through heresy the church has been taught through the sorcery of Greek philosophy that we have to “know” how to get to heaven.... where the complete opposite exists by Jesus' every words. ***“I will come again”*** (Jn 14:3)

IV. JESUS THE TRUTH

There are many aspects of Truth that we can mention about Jesus and they all apply and are valid. But the one I feel the Holy Spirit leading me to discuss is the ultimate realization of the Apostles when they saw Jesus resurrected.

The guilt and shame Peter walked with for 40 days was due to his inability to fully trust Him prior to His resurrection, and the fact that Jesus called Peter out and told him that he would deny Him three times.

Peter was faced with the Truth for forty days, and Jesus let Him wear it, not because He is mean, or He wanted to torture Peter. Its because Peter was the Rock, and cement needs time to cure, and the very last things that must be done before you build on a foundation is to wait for the foundation is set.

Jesus last order of business on earth before He ascended was to declare that the foundation had cured, therefore He restores Peter, and on His back we have the gospel today.

The ultimate Truth is that Jesus is who He said He was, and in that Truth is no longer an idea but a person.

IV. JESUS IS THE LIFE

- Just as Truth blew away all bias from the hearts of the Apostles, so does Life refocus perspective.

I believe Jesus very carefully selected these words and in that order, Way, Truth, Life to be the guiding heartbeat to what He loves most, Humanity!

Humanity is lost because of Lucifer, and His temper tantrum is to lead us towards the same damnation the Bible foretells of what will happen to Him.

Close your eyes*

The life Jesus offers, is like flying in an airplane in the midst of a hurricane, and the moment that you set course for the opening, the way, and you get past the turbulence, the lighting and thunder, and you enter bright blue sunshine, and the plane stops experiencing all those effects that had when you were clinching for your life because certain death was imminent. That moment, that relief that **Life** gives you when you **Trusted** in the **Way** out is all in One. They cannot live apart, they are each integral to one another as The father, Son and Holy Spirit are Integral to each other.

- Jesus is our source of our greatest pleasures, whether we know it or not. Our greatest rewards are in Him, and our greatest Life, is with Him.

⁴God will wipe away every tear...there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain...⁵He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new... (Rev. 21:4-5)

- In the statement ***I am the Way, The Truth and The Life***, Jesus has planned some indescribable things for His people

⁹...Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. (1 Cor. 2:9)

³⁴"Then the King [Jesus] will say..., 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...'" (Mt. 25:34)

And when the enemy lies to you and tries to make you believe that you are defeated, you must remember :

¹³...God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (1 Cor. 10:13)

V. JESUS AS LORD, LUNATIC, OR LIAR—CS LEWIS' ARGUMENT

Lewis wrote, "I am trying to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher... You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great teacher."

