

John 14

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I. 14:1-6 A Home in Heaven

- A. 14:2 *mansions* = dwellings, places to live. Not very specific as to type of place.
- B. 14:3 Jesus is coming back for us. This should be a continuous, comforting hope for us as believers. Our home is truly with Jesus in the Father's house.

Philippians 3:20 (NKJV) For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

- C. 14:6 The Old Testament Tabernacle only allowed one way into the presence of God. It only had one door.

- i. One way to the Father is not overly restrictive; we need no other.

- a) *Illustration: Let's say you find a man floating in the middle of the ocean hundreds of miles from shore. His boat has sunk and he's stranded. You throw him a line. At this point what would you think if he demands a rope of another color or thickness or material? Or, perhaps he says, "No thanks, I'd rather swim the distance." This is what many people do spiritually. They refuse the way God has lovingly provided because for one reason or another it does not appeal to them.*

II. 14:7-11 Getting to Know Jesus

- A. 14:9 Jesus is not rebuking Philip, but inviting him to greater intimacy. Drawing near to Jesus is drawing near to God.
- B. 14:10 Jesus is not merely of one mind with the Father – reflecting His Father's desire. They are of one essence, of the same nature, both co-equal as deity.

Colossians 1:15 (NKJV) He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

Colossians 2:9 (NKJV) For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NKJV) ¹God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.

III. 14:12-14 The Promise of Answered Prayer

- A. 14:12 *greater works* Not greater as far as jaw-dropping, show-stopping impressiveness; it would be hard to top raising the dead - but rather greater in scope and greater in influence.

14:13-14 The Lord has left us prayer as part of the “greater works” that we can do. Only God knows what has been accomplished throughout the history of the church in answer to the prayers of the saints. And prayer is work. If you pray very much I think you'll agree.

Colossians 4:12 (NKJV) Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

In My name The name of Jesus is not a magic formula. To pray in His name is to pray according to His character and in agreement with His will. God will not grant requests which are contrary to His nature just because we end them with “in Jesus' name. Amen”

IV. 14:15-20 The Presence of the Holy Spirit

- A. 14:16 *another* = of the same kind as the first, therefore, fully God just like Jesus

Helper = *paraklētos* = compound word from “alongside” + “called”. Translated variously as Helper, Advocate, Comforter, Intercessor

- B. 14:17 Contrast between the OT and NT ministry of the Holy Spirit:

- i. In times past the Holy Spirit was “with” God's people, but the abiding presence within was not guaranteed.
- ii. But each and every believer now has the Holy Spirit dwelling **within** and He will abide with us **forever**. See v.16 again.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (NKJV) ¹³In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Romans 8:9 (NKJV) But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

- C. Two common yet imbalanced views:

- i. That one can be a true believer in Jesus without having received the Holy Spirit.
- ii. That just because we have received the Holy Spirit, there is nothing more to address as far as our relationship with Him.

- a) Jesus foretold an “upon” experience of the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:8. The disciples were “filled with the Spirit” in Acts 2, no doubt the fulfillment of that.

Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV) ... [This command is for believers] be filled with the Spirit

- b) Peter was filled with the Spirit again in Acts 4 and then all of them were filled again later in Acts 4. So, being filled with the Spirit can be a repeated process. We may not get more of the Holy Spirit, but He can get more of us; that is, a more complete control of us. This is what Ephesians 5:18 commands.
- c) We can hinder the work He desires to do within us. Therefore we are told:

1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NKJV) Do not quench the Spirit.

- d) The Holy Spirit is a Person with a heart as tender as the heart of God, so we can grieve Him through our bitterness, anger, evil speaking or other sin. So, we are told:

Ephesians 4:30 (NKJV) And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

V. 14:21-24 Love and Obedience

- A. 14:21-24 Think back to v.15. The intensity of our love for Jesus can be measured by the quality of our obedience.
- B. 14:21, 23 *manifest Myself, We will come and make Our home* Obedience then leads to greater intimacy.

VI. 14:25-31 The Peace of Jesus Christ

- A. 14:27 He gives His peace to us so that our hearts are not overly troubled.
 - i. Jesus just explained that one of them would betray Him (13:21), that He was going to leave them (13:33), and that Peter would deny Him (13:38). He knew their hearts needed calming.
 - ii. Compare v.1 and v.27 for a more thorough lesson in letting His peace rule in our hearts. We might also add this one if we're looking for good memory verses:

Colossians 3:15 (NKJV) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

- iii. Isn't it comforting to know that the Lord wants us to be at peace? Don't miss the fact that Jesus is telling them as He knows He is about to be arrested, tried and crucified.
- B. 14:28 *My Father is greater than I* Greater positionally, as one person may be greater than another – not *in nature*, as if Christ were denying His deity.