

**The Gospel of John: That You May Believe
Let Not Your Heart Be Troubled**

John 13:36-14:6
Sunday, August 13, 2017

Introduction

As we return to the upper room things are progressing quickly toward the cross. Judas has been dismissed and soon Jesus will be arrested. The disciples have little idea what is about to happen, but Jesus wants to prepare them. He wants to give them hope in the midst of all that they are about to experience.

As their world is about to get turned upside down, Jesus provides His disciples with some precious promises. Promises that are good for us also and can help us as we navigate the struggles of our lives.

The Source of Hope for Troubled Hearts: Faith in God (14:1)

Jesus knows that the disciples are about to be tempted to despair, and so the first thing He does is to point them back to the source of their ultimate hope.

The word belief in verse one can be understood as a “trusting belief.” Jesus wants His disciples to trust God - Father and Son.

- Trust in God (Psalm 56:3-4; 42:5-6; Jeremiah 17:7-8)
- Trust in Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)
- **Application:** As people living in broken and sin-cursed world these are important reminders for us – we have a God whom we can trust. He has been faithful throughout the generations and He will continue to be faithful.

The Substance of Hope for Troubled Hearts: The Promises of God (14:2-6)

As Jesus spoke to His disciples He could have simply given them the admonition to trust God (Father and Son), but He doesn't stop there. He wants them have something to hang onto and so He gives them several promises.

- **The Promise of a Place: There is a place being prepared (14:2)**

As Jesus told His disciples that He was leaving, no doubt they were lost and confused. Where does this leave them? But Jesus gives them this promise, even though He is going away, He is preparing a place for them.

 - **Application:** One of the great hopes we have as believers is that this world is not our final home – He has a place prepared for us (Hebrews 11:13, 16; 2 Corinthians 5:1-5).
- **The Promise of His Coming: He will Come Again (14:3)**

As Jesus prepares to leave He wants His disciples to know that He will not be gone forever. His promise to them (and us) is that He is coming again.

 - **Application:** As followers of Jesus we should be anxiously waiting for the coming of our Lord. As we are tempted to have troubled hearts, this is a great hope – He is coming again! (Titus 2:11-14)
- **The Promise of His Presence: We will be with Him (14:3)**

While Jesus does make the promise of a place, the greatest hope of eternity is not the place or the provisions, the greatest hope we have is being in the presence of our Lord.

 - **Application:** Are you weary from the struggles of life, cling to this: One day you will live forever in the perfect presence of God. A place of great pleasures and fullness of joy (1 Thessalonians 4:16-18; Psalm 16:9-11; 73:1-3, 23-26).
- **The Promise of a Sure Way: Jesus is the Way (14:4-6)**

As we consider these great promises there is an important question: who are these promises for? In these final verses Jesus explains that these promises are for all who come to Him by faith.

 - The Hope of Jesus as the Way (Romans 10:9-13)
 - The Exclusivity of Jesus as the Way (Acts 4:12)