

**Slide 1**

# **Tranquility For Troubled Hearts**

## **JOHN 14:1-6**

### **Introduction**

1. Over the last two weeks, we have focused on the last eight verses of John 13.
2. In these verses, Jesus spoke of His being glorified and His Father being glorified in Him.
3. He also gave to His disciples a “new commandment,” that they “love one another,” even as He had loved them (v. 34).
4. But, as I pointed out last week, it was something else He said which captured their attention.
5. It was the fact that He was only going to be with them a “little while longer” and that where He was going, they could not come (v. 33).
6. As we noticed, Peter latched onto these words and asked, “Lord, where are You going?” to which Jesus responded, “Where I go, you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow later” (John 13:36).
7. This did not satisfy Peter. He persisted all the more, “Lord why can I not follow You right now? I will lay down my life for You” (John 13:37).
8. Jesus went on to tell Peter that before a rooster crowed, Peter would have denied Him three times.
9. No doubt, the other disciples were asking the same questions in their own minds. Peter was the only one who voiced their concerns.
10. In the first six verses of John 14, we find Jesus’ words of assurance to them.
11. He begins with the words, “Do not let your heart(s) be troubled” (John 14:6).

12. Consider this for a moment:
  - a. Jesus is the one who is about to face the agony of the cross.
  - b. It was He who had recently told His disciples, “Now My soul has become troubled” (John 12:27).
  - c. John has just revealed to us that Jesus “became troubled in spirit” (John 13:21).
13. On this night of all nights, the disciples are the ones who should have rendered emotional and spiritual support to Jesus, and yet He is still the one who gives, who comforts and who instructs.
14. The disciples are troubled because they are confused and uncertain as to what Jesus means by this talk about His imminent departure.
15. Tonight, I want us to look closely at what Jesus says to His disciples to comfort their troubled hearts.
16. I believe these same words will bring to us the assurance we need when our hearts are troubled.

## Slide 2

### **A. THE IMPERATIVE WHICH BRINGS TRANQUILITY TO A TROUBLED HEART**

“Believe in God, believe also in Me” (John 14:1).

1. The two verbs in the last part of verse one can be read either as indicatives or imperatives.
2. The KJV & NKJV treat the first as an indicative and the second as an imperative — “You believe in God; believe also in Me.”
3. Many of the other English translations treat both verbs as imperatives — “Believe in God, believe also in Me” (John 14:1).
4. This is the way the verbs were rendered in all the old Latin manuscripts.
5. It is very likely that their trust in God is not very secure at this point.
6. How could they or we trust in Jesus if we do not first have a firm trust in God?

7. Long ago, Solomon wrote, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5, NASB95).
8. Do we trust God this completely? If not, will we trust His Son?
9. Bringing tranquility to our hearts begins with "believing in" or "trusting in" both our Father and His Son.

**Slide 3****B. THE REASON FOR SUCH BELIEF (TRUST)**

"In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:2-3, NASB95)

1. Jesus departure is for the disciples' advantage.
2. Yes, He is going away, but He is going away to prepare a place for them.
3. Then, He will come back and get them so that they may be where He is.
4. When Jesus speaks of His "Father's house," He was speaking of "heaven."
5. In heaven there are "many dwelling places."
6. Jesus wanted His disciples and us to know that there is more than enough space for every one of His disciples to join Him in His Father's home.
7. Remember, Jesus had just told His disciples to believe in Him.
8. If heaven were other than He has described it, He would have told them.
9. The means by which Jesus is going to prepare a place for them is through the cross and His resurrection.
10. If Jesus goes through all that trouble to prepare a place for His own, it is inconceivable that He should not want them to be with Him.
11. Jesus revealed this to His disciples and to us so that we might focus on the comfort we will enjoy in God's presence.
12. There are two other passages I would like for you to consider:

**Slide 4**

## a. The first was spoken by Jesus Himself:

“Then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And then He will send forth the angels, and will gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of heaven.” (Mark 13:26–27, NASB95)

**Slide 5**

## b. The second is found in Paul’s first letter to the Christians in Thessalonica:

“For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words.” (1 Thessalonians 4:15–18, NASB95)

## Slide 6

**C. THE WAY TO THAT PLACE OF COMFORT**

“And you know the way where I am going”

“Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?” (John 14:4-5, NASB95)

1. Jesus has just told them where He is going (vv. 2-3) and also that they know the way.
2. Thomas is struggling to comprehend the destination — “My Father’s house” — and as a result, how he and the other disciples are to get there.

**Slide 7**

3. Jesus responds with these words: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6, NASB95)
4. Jesus is the way to God, precisely because . . .
  - a. He is “the truth of God”
    - 1) He is God’s “Word,” made flesh, the One who is “full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).
    - 2) He Himself “revealed” God (John 1:18).
    - 3) He says and does everything the Father gives Him to say and do (John 5:19ff; 8:29).
  - b. Jesus is “the life of God”
    - 1) “In Him was life” (John 1:4).
    - 2) He is “the resurrection and the life” (John 11:25).
    - 3) He is “the true God and eternal life” (1 John 5:20).

## **Conclusion**

1. In the beginning of this gospel, John tells us about a day when John the Baptist saw Jesus coming to him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29).
2. In John 4:42, we find the people of Sychar who, after coming out to see Jesus for themselves, because of what the woman had said, told her, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the World.”

3. In John 5:28-29, we find Jesus telling us that “an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.”
4. Jesus, alone, can bring tranquility to our troubled hearts.
5. Will you submit your life to Him tonight?