

WORDS OF HOPE IN DARK TIMES **(John 14:1-6)**

I. These words speak of peace (vs. 1).

- A. The word translated “troubled” literally means “to roil, agitate.”
 - 1. It is the same Greek word used in John 5:4.
 - 2. It carries the idea here, of stirring up with trouble.
- B. It was as if their hearts were being tossed around on a stormy sea.
- C. Jesus did not want that for them and sought to calm their fears.
- D. Jesus was able to calm nature, and as He was willing and able to do that, He was willing and able to calm His apostles.
- E. The same is true for us today.
 - 1. We face problems of all different stripes.
 - 2. He says to us, “Don’t be troubled.”
 - 3. Followed very closely by: “Come unto me...” (Matthew 11:28-30).
 - 4. Jesus wants to help with our doubts, fears and troubles.
 - 5. We have to be able to turn them over to Him.
- F. Just as Jesus spoke to the waves, He speaks to us through His word, saying “Peace be still.”
- G. The very first words Jesus spoke to His apostles upon His resurrection were “Peace be unto you” (John 20:19).
- H. He says those same words to us today.

II. These words speak of preparation (vs. 2).

- A. As sad as His departure would be for them, it was necessary.
- B. Jesus had to leave in order to prepare for them, and us, a place in heaven.
- C. The work Jesus was to do would not cease at the cross.
 - 1. Jesus would live on after this.
 - 2. His work would as well.
- D. When you look at our world, you see some beautiful sights.
 - 1. There is something majestic about a sunrise coming over the mountains.
 - 2. There is something so peaceful about a sunset at the beach.
 - 3. There are places in this world, the beauty of which take your breath.
- E. Our Lord created all these places (John 1:3).
- F. Now notice that Jesus He was going to prepare a place.
 - 1. The One who created all these beautiful places and all the scenery that we love, is creating a place for us.
 - 2. This will be an eternal home not subject to the death and decay of this world.
 - 3. If Jesus created such a wonderful place for us in six days, think how beautiful heaven must be since it is at least 2,000 years in the making.

III. These words speak of a promise (vs. 3).

- A. Notice the words of Jesus, “I will come again.”

1. Have you ever gone some place and said, "I will come back some day" but never did?
 2. Most of us have.
 3. Jesus said "I will" and He is of the Godhood that cannot lie (Titus 1:2).
 4. He is part of the Godhood that keeps promises.
- B. The purpose for His return will be to bring those close to Him home.
1. We are temporarily separated from the Lord for a greater reward.
 2. He wants to be with us and is simply waiting for the word from the Father.
- C. Jesus never lightly made promises.
1. We throw the words "I promise" around like nothing.
 2. Jesus never did.
 3. He simply keeps the promises He made.
- D. He promised us He would return and He will do so.
- E. It is with thoughts of His return we can have words wherewith we can comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

IV. These words speak of a path (vs. 4-6).

- A. Jesus told them that they knew the way to the Father, and the idea is that they did because they had seen Him.
- B. Thomas spoke for all of them when he said they didn't know where He was going or the way to where He was going.
1. This was because they did not grasp the kingdom.
 2. They were looking for something earthly.
- C. Jesus lets them know that He is the way.
1. The word "the" carries the idea of exclusivity.
 2. He is the one and only way, truth and life.
 3. There is no way to get to the Father except through Jesus.
- D. Jesus is the path to the Father because He paved the way through His death, burial and resurrection.
1. He is the only path to heaven.
 2. It is His way or no way.
- E. People claim many paths to heaven.
1. Unless the path is the one laid out for us by Jesus, then it is a false path.
 2. Jesus is the exclusive path or way to heaven.
- F. He is the truth, the embodiment and teaching of truth.
- G. He is the life, or source of life.
1. We can only get to eternal life through Jesus.
 2. We can know truth and it is Jesus and His word.

From a sermon outline by Mark Posey.