

John 14:1-6 (No More Heart Trouble, Part 2)

Intro: It has been said that Your Viewpoint affects your attitude and your attitude will affect your actions .

A) Example: Road trip with my Family- Montana

B) IN the Car they see the sign – 500 miles to Montana – **Their view point** { Long way

1) Attitude{ Frustration Their actions: I am going to sleep – wake me up when we get there!

C) Which is fine with me – that means I get to listen to what I want to listen to.

1) **My View point** – Getting closer – My Attitude: How fast can I do this – 500 miles

D) My Actions: Set Cruise at 70mph – ok 80 in some stretches – Calculate: 80mph that is a little over 6 hrs

1) Stops for gas I start calculating

2) How many Bible studies can I listen to.....

E) All based on my view point – 500 miles to go!

Big Waves –View point: Pier or Rocks – Attitude – Awesome – Actions – Chill – hrs

A) Viewpoint – caught inside – attitude is panic

Actions – Got to get out of here!

Well Jesus knows that our Viewpoint affects our attitude and our Attitude affects ... actions

A) So on a night when the disciples view point was troubling – { Leaving / Betray/ Forsake/ Deny

B) He wants to give them the proper viewpoint

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And 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.

C) Two things to keep in View ! Look to me and Look to Heaven!

Keep your eyes on Jesus!

A) Listen People will let you down! Man will

1) **Closest to you will fail you.**

B) Pastors will let you down

1) Politicians will let you down

2) The Church will let you down

C) But not Jesus: **believe in God, believe also in Me.**

1) Put your focus on the one who loves you so dearly – The one who is always faithful and true

2) The one who **ALWAYS KEEPS** His promises

D) So Jesus is telling his disciples in this turbulent time Look to Him

1) Trust in Him – Believe in Him

And to Look to Heaven – { Fathers house are Many mansions –

A) He wants them and us to see that – there is something great is coming beyond the here & now

B) **The Key for troubled hearts** – There is more to life than this place { Heaven

1) Set that in Your View point – Paul **Set your mind – your affections on the things above.**

C) Some people have been described as being so heavenly minded no earthly good.

1) Walking around in w/ their head in the clouds – some **hyper spiritual condition** { Just being hyper spiritual

D) When in reality – Think Jon Courson is right when he says – **Really can't be any earthly good until we are heavenly minded**

See The person who is TRULY heavenly minded – knows that is where things count

A) That person lives with such keen awareness that the things of this earth are passing away

B) The person who is heavenly minded realizes that things are temporal and people are eternal

1) He realizes that this life is but a vapor in comparison to eternity

C) He realizes that real treasure is not what we acquire here – but what we are sending ahead

D) He realizes that there is nothing more important to look forward to than the day we stand before Jesus and long to hear Him say: Well done

Being heavenly minded is crucial: But it is easier said than done – why is that ?

A) Why can heaven seem so dim? – 3 reasons

#1 We are near sighted!

A) I am near sighted – contacts – Problem I can't see things at a distance – Blurry.

B) Spiritually at times we all suffer from that condition – the problem most of us have only see what is in front of us!

Joseph Stowel calls this the condition of earth bound Believers

“Earthbound believers live the most important segments of their lives only in the context of this world.

Their expectations dreams hopes & plans all relate to what they can acquire & experience now.

We see our Careers as Platforms for our own Significance & Security not as a means to advance the Kingdom of Christ or as a Platform upon which the Values of the King can be seen !!

We are Content to Sing about Heaven & to hear sermons about the authority of Christ & the values of His Kingdom but we fail to live here in light of there .

And when it is all said & done we look back upon our lives and see that we have poured into the Bottomless bucket of this world & the Bucket is still empty.

C) WOW! Point – Like Holes in your Pants

1) Plight of the person living for here – always empty

Ours is the first generation to teach that, materially, one can have heaven on earth.

A) Our society is always throwing things in our face that have a tendency to get us focused on the here and now

B) Impulse buying: How many Americans are in debt

1) Buy on impulse – Charge it – buy now pay later

C) Near sighted: **Only focused on the here and now**

#2 Responsibilities

A) Bills to pay – families to feed – work to be done
Problems to fix – Day to day responsibilities

B) **My greatest struggle** – [**Heaven in the Morning during devotions** – last thing on my mind – by noon

C) It is easy to get consumed and distracted by what we have to do each day.

1) Or by the problems and Challenges that constantly get thrown our way.

D) It is not that we are focused on obtaining heaven on earth

1) Just there is so much earth / so much life / so many issues – can't think past **RIGHT NOW!**

#3 Reason Distorted View of what heaven is going to be like – Clouds Playing Harps –

A) Long nabs – Nothing could be further from the truth

B) Which is why we have paused here in Jn 14 to take the time to consider Heaven – what it is really going to be like

C) Reasons why we should be excited that we are going to **HEAVEN!** - **#1 Means not going to Hell**

1) Another Reason.

#2 Because of what heaven is going to be like.

Note 5 things

1) A Place of Indescribable beauty!

2 Corinthians 12:4 NLT

I Heard things so astounding that they are beyond a man's power to describe or put in words.

As I was studying yesterday: I was becoming more and more frustrated.

A) I like to paint pictures when I teach – I like to illustrate. - **The Bible is pretty Vague** about heaven

B) So trying to describe heaven – to those of us who have never seen it –

1) is in some ways like trying to describe what ice cream taste like to someone who has never tasted it.

C) **Cold Creamy – Sweet** – sometimes nuts and Chocolate – or cookies –

1) Describe all you want but it just doesn't do justice.

D) Paul speaking just about the sounds He heard in Heaven said – Indescribable.

John the writer of this gospel also wrote Revelation He was given a vision of the heavenly scene.

A) The Lord allowed John to pen what He saw – but it is very esoteric – mystical

B) For instance in Rev 21 – John describes the New Jerusalem

It is there that John describes it as this City that is made of Solid gold – but the gold is so pure that it is clear as glass So it is incredibly strong – yet very reflective { try to imagine that

C) Surrounding the city is this Wall of Jewels made up of a Kaleidoscope of the most brilliant of colors anyone has ever seen

D) There are Varying degrees of blues, Reds, Yellows / greens & Oranges – Plus Crystal clear reflections

1) No Sun The Light of the Lord is illuminating the Place { **His Glory lights it up**

E) The Gates that are made of the Most – Beautiful & perfect pearls

The thing that blows my mind about that is the things that we deem as valuable in this world

A) Gold Diamonds Jewels and rubies & Pearls – things advertised today as amazing gifts - are the building materials of Heaven.

If I was going to pick one word to describe the Beauty of Heaven it would be the Word Glory

A) Used many times in the Bible as a reference to Heaven – and our experience

B) Partakers of His Glory!

C) The word Glory in the Bible speaks of that which is weighty – or Full

1) It describes a fullness of Experience at every level

D) Fullness of Beauty that is AWEINSPIRING

That which leaves you completely satisfied and speechless { In AWE

A) Denise listening to Andrea Bocelli – Awe

Phantom of the Opera –

B) That is what Heaven is going to be like – inspiring in that way – Breathtakingly Beautiful

2) It is a place of Unlimited intimacy! Word Union

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

A) In heaven we are going to be so close to Jesus

Intimacy Craving – Gal 4:6 ABBA

B) Think about the terms the Bible uses to describe that event - WEDDING

1) Bride who is going to finally be united with Her Love.

C) I don't want to take this analogy too far but I think the Lord uses the picture –

1) Because it is a picture of great intimacy

D) Bride and her Love on their wedding night!

1) Never feel closer

See that is my problem right now – There are days I feel so close to the Lord – Hear his heartbeat/In tune

A) Other times it is like bad cell phone reception

Frustrating – Constant interference

B) In Heaven – We are going to be one – Hear His heart beat – clear – Know all things

1) See things thru His eyes – truly have His heart

3) Heaven is a place of Inexpressible Joy.

A) The Word I would use here is Celebration

B) Heaven is a place of Celebrating!

1 Peter 1:8-9 **Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith — the salvation of your souls.**

Jude 24 **Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,**

One of the most common pictures in the Bible used to describe the heavenly scene is a wedding reception

A) It is a celebration: Trevor and Lindsay

B) All the kids went Nuts – That is what heaven is going to be like { Feast & not get fat { Desert

C) Luke 15:7 tells us that all heaven breaks into **Celebration when one sinner repents**

1) Abe and Moses High fives / Jonathan and David Back flips – Jesus Cheering -

D) Heaven is a place of Celebration!

Isaiah 61:10

“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,

My soul shall be joyful in my God;

For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”

Isaiah 62:5

“And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,

So shall your God rejoice over you.”

Heaven is a place of rejoicing because it is a place of No More's { No more Sin – freed from Presence

A) No more Death / No more Sorrow / Crying / Pain / Curse / Hunger / Thirst /

B) Can you imagine, your arthritis pain gone, your stiff neck fixed, no more migraine headaches.

C) Perfect eyesight, hearing, smell, all your senses tuned to 100%, just like before the fall of Adam.

4) Heaven is a place of Unending Fellowship!

COMMUNION

A) Think about who we get to hang out with! Abe Moses / Enoch – What was that like

B) Elijah – Fiery Chariot –

1) Lazarus –

C) NO time in heaven – so no schedules – no day planners – no appointments – no waiting

Taste of Heaven a few months ago – Allen Rigg and Sandy Adams – 3 DAYS together

A) 10 Hour conversations – amazing

B) Heaven is going to be like ! Real Fellowship – deep

Heaven Indescribable Beauty

Unhindered Intimacy

Inexpressible Joy

Unending Fellowship

5) Uninhibited Worship { Freedom

A) Free from Distractions { Me – sound

B) Free from Fears – what am I going to sound like

All going to have a great voice!

C) Free from Restrictions – Stand or sit Neal – ok to lift hands – What is appropriate

1) You are going to know exactly what to do and when to do it!

D) How does that sound

Heaven Indescribable Beauty

Unhindered Intimacy

Inexpressible Joy { No more sin / pain / flesh

Unending Fellowship

Uninhibited Worship

E) Are you READY?

Now when Jesus says I am going to prepare a place for you and I will come again to take you there

A) He is using an illustration that comes right out of Jewish tradition

B) In Jewish culture marriages were most often Arranged (EXPLAIN) { learn to fall in love

B) Now when the Kids came of age where they could actually be married –

1) one thing that needed to take place first was home prepared

C) So the Young man - bridegroom would begin to build a dwelling place for he and his bride

1) the wedding couldn't take place until it was finished!

D) Now Who determined when it was finished? - His Father

He said - I will come again and receive you to myself

but also says - no man knows the day or the hour of that coming except - Father!

But Jesus said - we should know the times and seasons - understand when things are getting closer!

So the bridegroom would be working on the house A) And the bride would get reports from friends – relatives

B) Walls are up / roof is on / windows in / front door is up/ it could be any day now! - finished

C) Now Over the years it became the custom of the bridegroom to surprise his bride in the middle of the night - early morning

D) He and his groomsmen come into town to her house making a lot of noise!

1) Awaken **Bride and her bridesmaids -needed to be ready**

Matt 25 Parable of the ten virgins is about – 5 ready 5 who were not ready { 5 had oil

Interesting picture – The ones who were left out were in the wedding party – but not prepared

A) Hopefully not for anyone here –

B) Not prepared

There was a king who had all his world could afford. The thing he loved most, however, was to laugh.

Once while being entertained a jester came along wishing to join in the festival of activities and also wishing to perform for him. His opportunity came and he put the best comical show together he had ever done and the king never laughed so hard.

Once the activity was all over the king wanted to hire this jester to be his personal jester. Once hired the king in humor handed him a small stick and said, "You are the most foolish man alive. When you find someone more foolish than you, then you give them this stick," and the king laughed heartily.

After many years had passed by the king lay sick on his death bed ready to go at any moment. He called for his jester, for he wanted to laugh one more time before he died. When the jester was through he asked to speak to the king personally.

Once alone with the king the jester asked, "king where are you going?" The king responded, "on a far journey." The jester asked again, "and how do you plan to get there?" Again the king responded, "I don't know." Then the jester pulled the stick from his back pocket and handed it to the king. The king was stunned and asked why he had given him the stick. The jester replied, "**King today I have found a more foolish man than I. For you see, I only trifled with the things of life, but you have trifled with things of eternity!**"