

John 14:1-6 (No More Heart Trouble, Part 3)

"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. 4 And where I go you know, and the way you know."

5 Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?"

6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Jesus begins Chapter 14 with these words

A) Let not your heart be troubled! –

B) For the disciples it focused around the news – Leaving / Betray / Forsake / Deny

1) What about us?

C) Well in the hour and ½ you spend in Church today: **90 teens will attempt suicide here in the U.S.**

D) As this year closes – **40% of marriages will end in Divorce.**

E) Every year here in the U.S. – in 10 million homes

Children are sexually assaulted

- 1) War in Iraq
- 2) Gas prices
- 3) Unstable economy

We live in an age that is characterized by Stress

Hey thanks for the reminder

A) But go back to the words of JESUS – Let not your hearts be troubled – **LET NOT – DON'T LET ..**

B) Yes living in this world is stressful – but you have a choice how it is going to affect you.

1) People argue – **I just can't control my emotions** – Well Jesus is saying you can

C) It all depends on where you put your focus

1) **Look to Me – You believe in Me**

2) Look to Heaven – In my fathers house

D) We see a great example of this in the life of the Patriarchs – Turn to Hebrews 11

Hebrews 11 is the great Hall of faith – Men and women of the OT – Who walked by Faith

A) But understand it wasn't blind faith – Faith is only as strong as it's object –

B) Their faith was in God and His faithfulness to keep His promises

V.1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.

C) **Hoped for:** Absolute assurance of coming good

1) So faith is the certainty of things hoped for and the conviction that what is not seen is going to occur!

So what were they focused on?

V.9 By faith he (ABE) dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

They were looking for a city that could not be found on this earth – Builder and maker was God { Heaven

A) They were living in a time of stress – Giants to contend w/- **Goliath @ 9'6' was small 13 foot beds**

B) There was the constant threat of enemies

C) They were on a journey – always moving

1) **Constant uncertainty** – God didn't give them a road map – Just said – Go – I will lead you

D) **Constant threats** from wild animals / disease

1) It was stressful –

But here is what we read of their mentality: Their mindset and focus! Hebrews 11:13

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off

were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

A) They received the promises of God having seen them afar off – this was their mentality

B) **Faith sees what the Human eye can't see!**

1) George Mueller setting the table and praying that God would bless the food – orphans – no food – crazy

C) Then a bread and Cheese truck breaks down outside

D) They were assured of them: Moved about with confidence – Believing that the Promises would come to pass { **This involves the mind**

C) **They embraced them!** -

1) The word embrace is a word of affection –

2) taking a hold of something and pressing it to your heart

D) They took the **promises of God and pressed them to their hearts**

E) **To receive gladly** : There was a certain zeal to their movements and sojournings

1) Eager anticipation w/ excitement

Flying home from an overseas trip: So excited to see Denise – Because there is affection there.

A) I embrace the reality see her – Exhausted because I can't sleep on a plane – Burst of energy see her!

B) This word embrace – **involves the Heart**

1) When our hearts are embracing heaven / His Kingdom – less attracted to this World

2) **See this world for what it is temporal**

C) Like the Husband who is regularly embracing his wife – Affection in his heart –

1) less likely to be attracted to someone else!

#3 They confessed: This involves the mouth

A) Once the mind and the heart are engaged – confession comes easy.

B) Guy – thinks He has found the one – Mind

1) Embraced her in his heart – affection is growing

What comes next ? **confession – I love you.**

C) Big confession: **will you marry me?**

D) What did they confess? They confessed that they were Strangers and pilgrims on the earth

1) They confessed it with their mouths as well as with their actions

They moved about in tents!

A) Abe was a rich man were are told in Genesis 13:2 when he left UR –

B) And yet throughout his wanderings – He never looked to build a house { Set up camp {

1) Dwelt in tents { They lived with a sojourner mentality. **He wasn't looking to get too comfortable**

A Vagabond is someone who doesn't have a home - A pilgrim is someone who has left his home - sojourner someone who is going home.

C) They lived with a sojourner mentality

1) Abe set up tents and built altars – You could tell where he had been by the pile of ashes

Tents and Altars go together: To have a tent mentality with no altar is foolishness

A) In other words – if you are living in a temporary state of mind and a transient state of life for no reason – **THAT IS FOOLISH**

B) Especially if you have a family – dragging your kids around – sleeping in car –

1) Crashing on people's floor – that is foolish

C) Might be able to get away with that when young and single- for a family foolish and frustrating

1) So to have a tent and no altar is foolish

But to have an altar with out a tent is Hypocrisy

A) When we claim to be worshipper of the living God & don't live w/ a lose grip on this world – Hypocrisy

B) True worshippers have a tent mentality!

C) Now understand I am not suggesting that we should all be camping at **Guajome in tents**

D) Nor I am suggesting that you shouldn't care about your house – **keep up or improve**

1) No what I am saying is – that is not your main focus or priority!

E) Our main priority needs to be the Kingdom of God

1) Kingdom focus

See you are not going to be rewarded for having the best yard in heaven> Wow – great Yard

A) Not going to be rewarded for having the nicest car

B) **Best toys** – Loved that boat man !

1) **Best golf swing** { Play 9 holes

2) How in shape you were from spending hrs in the Gym. – **great six pack** – feel muscles

C) What is going to matter is what you did for the Kingdom – impact you made for Christ

1) How you used your time to advance the Lord

D) How you invested your time talents and resources in the things of God

Consider for a moment what we are told here about Moses V.24 -26

24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

A) Moses saw Egypt in all it's grandeur / all its wealth/ Prominence / prestige / pleasure

B) He saw it for what it was – **A PASSING Pleasure**– He chose to forsake it – for a harder life

1) Because He was looking for a greater reward –

A heavenly reward

C) That is the mentality – the focus – the Motivation that keeps us going –

1) Heaven is calling – Waiting – Our Destiny

Now over the last two weeks we have talked about some reasons why we should be excited going to heaven **2 Reasons**

A)#1 It means we are not going to Hell!

#2 What heaven is going to be like!

B) Today #3 What we are going to receive when we get there. Note 2 things

1) Same thing as Moses – 1st Rewards

Matthew 6:20-21

“lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

A)Treasures in heaven ?

B) The things that we do for the Lord here – become the treasures we will receive there.

C) Things done – right motives – right heart

1) Part of your treasure – **Your inheritance**

How easy is it ?

A)Youth Basketball – everyone gets a reward a medal for just participating

B) That is how heaven is – You are going to get rewarded for Just participating

Hebrews 6:10

“For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

Matthew 10:42

“And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

2 Timothy 4:8 - the Crown of righteousness

A) Crown for those who are looking forward to the Lord’s appearing – and living accordingly.

B) James 1:12 Crown of life

1) Those who love the Lord.

C) 1 Thessalonians 2:19 The crown of rejoicing

1) Crown of the Soul winner!

D) 1 Peter 5 :4 Crown of Glory: Those faithful in Service!

So we are going to be rewarded

A) Everyone is going to enjoy Heaven – Different capacities – Different Inheritance

B) Some Dixie cup – full! Like a little kid happy as can be in a little sand box

C) Others **Air Freight container – Like a vacationer on the sands in Maui**

D) Question is how full do you want to be –

1) Store up treasure in Heaven – Can’t take it with you but you can send it ahead

What else are we going to receive? New Bodies

1 Corinthians 15:51- 55

“ Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

A) When we get to heaven we are going to receive a new body fashioned like his glorious body.

B) When Jesus resurrected – they could touch him

1) Mary – let go of me!

2) Thomas touch my hands – side

C) Not going to be like reunited with grandma and run right thru her

1) NO you will be able to touch her and it will be realer than this !

D) But our new bodies are going to be Immortal

1) Indestructible – No limitations – Fly – be here blink and be somewhere else

A couple of years ago – MSNBC did a special on Kim Peek the Autistic Savant who inspired Rainman

A) NASA was studying Kim Peeks brain – 12,000 books completely memorized

B) Sat and watched the movie rainmain about his life and it brought him out a little –
Speaks at High Schools

C) When he was born his head was a 3rd bigger than his brother and sisters – drag it
around on the carpet

1) Doctors told his parents he needed a frontal lobotomy – always be a retard

D) His parents were appalled by that – Pretty soon they were astounded

14months crawling – Discovered reading News paper

No one taught him to read.

5yrs old – Playing classical music on the piano – today **he has memorized 85%** of all the
classical music in the world.

Loves Geography – He knows every state and every zip code of every city & small town in
the U.S.

He spends his days off at the Library reading 12 hrs a day

He speed reads 10 times faster than the fastest speed reader in the US

He reads the left page w/ left eye / right page w/ right eye – full retention – And can do it
upside down

Amazing individual – Called Autistic Savant – Idiot Savant – Super Savant – there is only
one Kim Peek in the world

Has Nasa wondering how wandering – is every human brain capable of this type of activity?

A) Listen when we get to Heaven – all the road blocks are going to be taken away

B) Know all things – Right now we see cloudy – then Clear as clear can be!

Close with this Turn to 2 Corinthians 5

God wants us to Know that we are going to heaven that our home is in Heaven –

A) What we are really longing for is Heaven-

B) He put his spirit in our hearts as a Guarantee – down payment

1) Engagement ring – For a woman – represents a longing – No more cold nights / no more alone