

“Who is Jesus?”: The Way, the Truth, The Life
John 14:1-14

Introduction:

- **John 20:30-31**, “**30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”
- This underlying theme of “promise” continues through the end of His instruction to the disciples in chp.16 and is found in His prayer in chp.17.
- This is important because there is a premium given to belief in John’s gospel. Believe in the promises of God.
- In a general application, you who are troubled, perhaps even depressed, should find great hope in the message today.

The Place of Promise (vv.1-3)

- A) This Truth is Comforting
 - a. Trouble: *Tarasso* – inner commotion; disturbance of the spirit; restless soul
 - b. Distress includes what’s known and unknown (spoken of his death and departure; one of them will betray him; Peter’s denial is foretold;)
- B) Belief is Essential
 - a. In God
 - i. In all His attributes
 - ii. It is a BIG God you need!
 - b. In Christ
 - i. Calvin, “*Proud men are ashamed of Christ’s humiliation, and, therefore, they fly to God’s incomprehensible Divinity. But faith will never reach heaven unless it submit to Christ, who appears to be a low and contemptible God, and will never be firm if it do not seek a foundation in the weakness of Christ.*”

- ii. Those who claim a great spiritual affection for the idea of God must not woo us. We so often want to attach Christianity to certain founding fathers of our country, actors, musicians and athletes.
- iii. Belief in God is non-existent apart from belief in Christ. So, if you deny the deity of Christ you believe in a God other than the God of Scripture.

C) Heaven is Real

- a. The Father’s House (heaven)
 - i. Sweet dwelling place
 - ii. Safe, secure and filled with the Father’s presence
- b. Prepared Rooms (dwelling places)
 - i. Prepared through His body
 - ii. Realized upon His return
- c. Emphasis: preparation, place of dwelling with the Godhead
- d. Foundation for comfort is to remember that this world is not the home of the true believer...How do you “get” there?

The Path of Promise (vv.4-7)

- A) “I AM” – 6th statement in John
- B) The Way
 - a. *Hodos* – journey, travelers way (also course of conduct and a way of thinking, feeling & deciding)
 - b. **Proverbs 14:12**, “*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.*”
 - c. **Hebrews 10:19-20**, “**19** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, **20** by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh...”
- C) The Truth
 - a. *Alathea* – true in fact and reality, in any matter under consideration

- b. **Colossians 2:1-3**, "**2:1** For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, **2** that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, **3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

D) The Life

- a. Zoe (dzo*ay) – state of one possessed of vitality; fullness of life belonging to God
- b. New perspective with the advent of His resurrection
- c. **John 10:10**, "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*"

E) No other path

- a. To the God the Father
- b. Through God the Son
 - i. **Acts 4:12**, "*And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*"
 - ii. **1 Timothy 2:5-6**, "**5** For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, **6** who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time."
- c. Knowing God
 - i. *Ginosko* - to come to know through personal experience
 - ii. Intimacy with Christ is intimacy with the Father (because of their nature, not ours)
 - iii. Because Jesus is God (1:1–3, 14, 17, 18; 5:10–23, 26; 8:58; 9:35; 10:30, 38; 12:41; 17:1–5; 20:28)

- b. What would you ask of Christ that would satisfy you and give you strength?
- c. They were troubled by the things that were going on and had been said. Philip, while still not getting it, still finds that the most satisfying answer to any question is God!

B) Unity of the Godhead (v.9)

- a. Christ's follow up question is about Philip knowing Him, not the Father. Consistency.
- b. What's the difference?

C) Belief in a Person (vv.10-11)

- a. Identity
- b. Words
- c. Works
- d. Satisfaction
 - This is what they were inquiring about
 - Christ answered their questions with an answer of deep and lasting satisfaction which is rooted in abiding belief in Christ
 - Do you believe Christ?

D) Fruit of Belief (vv.12-14)

- a. Works of Christ
- b. Greater Works
 - Extent
 - Empowered by the Resurrected Christ
 - Empowered by the Holy Spirit
 - Empowered through Prayer
 - 1 In the Name of Christ (the will of God)
 - 2 Always God's glory, not men's (**Phil.2:9-11**, "**9** Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, **10** so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.")
 - 3 Assurance

The Person of Promise (vv.8-14)

A) A Question of Satisfaction (v.8)

- a. The source of satisfaction (and the means of faith) are in question and earned a rebuke by Christ