

## “Discussing Departure” Jn. 14

1. Where are You Going? (1-6)
  - a. Don't fret. Trust Me (1)
  - b. Though I leave, there's plenty of room for you (2).
  - c. There is talk about overpopulation and population control but such is no problem at all.
  - d. There is plenty of room on earth – no abortions, euthanasia, genocide needed. Because of the Cross, there is also plenty of room in the Father's house.
  - e. Jesus is talking about the afterlife, but He is primarily speaking of eternal life and the preparation He had to make for us to enjoy it.
  - f. Jesus didn't leave to a celestial residence to construct a habitat for us. Conversely, He is the First fruit of resurrection of a new created order of which we too will take on the commission to have dominion over it. God designed us to design...
  - g. So what about heaven? I don't know if we will have bodies since our hope out of the body (tent) is to reunite with a resurrected body in the New Creation. Heaven is the abode of God and Christ and we will be with them till the day of Christ.
  - h. In fact, Phil. 1:6 suggests strongly that He is preparing us for a place rather than a habitat for us.
  - i. V. 4 may be a bit cryptic but actually Jesus had revealed to them 'where' and the 'way.'
  - j. Don't be hard on Thomas. He just asked what they were thinking. And Jesus' answer is v. 6.
  - k. He had told them that He had to lay down His life for His sheep and that He would take it back up again. He pointed to the cross specifically (3:14; 8:28; 12:32).
  - l. He went on to explain that the place was actually a person. The house with many rooms was a metaphor. In v. 6 Jesus doesn't say, "no one comes to the Father's house." The many rooms metaphor signaled that there would be abundant space (all creation) but the more pertinent reality is the unhindered presence of God.
  - m. Of course this verse signifies exclusivity of the way!
2. I Am the Way! (6-14)
  - a. Jesus answered Thomas' inquiry here. Where He was going was to the Father (after preparing a way for them). And the way to the Father was Jesus (v. 6). He couldn't just point out or show them the way, He became the way and they simply had to trust His word (e.g. v. 1; 8:31; 12:48) and works (e.g. v. 11) and the Cross.
  - b. Jesus even pointed to greater works which they and we would partake (12).
  - c. Vv. 13-14 do not indicate a formula but an attitude of requesting that which Jesus and the Father delight and have purposed.
  - d. Jesus also answered Philip's question in these verses by stating He and the Father are one. Cf. Jn. 1:18; Col. 1:15; Heb. 1:3.
  - e. David Gooding pointed out that Jesus had just demonstrated the Father's love by washing their feet. In verse 10 and elsewhere Jesus repeats that He only does that which the Father desires and the Father's heart is perfectly expressed through Jesus. Heb. 1:1-3 reiterates this.
3. The Spirit of Truth (15-17)
  - a. As we see, Jesus is the "Way" (atoning means) to the Father and He is truth; the supreme reality whose words are eternal (Mat. 24:35). And here He speaks of another Helper, "the Spirit of truth."
  - b. The Spirit opens our eyes to truth and to understand God's Word. He is the Spirit who applies the work of Christ to our spirits, quickening them to a new birth in Christ. The Spirit

## “Discussing Departure” Jn. 14

who hovered over the face of the water of creation breathes new life into the new creation which begins with us (2 Cor. 5:17).

- c. The way, truth, and life are one in the same and indicative of the eternal, almighty, righteous, and personal LORD. Nevertheless, we have and will see the aspects of the way prepared (via Jesus’ body), the truth of Jesus’ person as one in the triune God and whose Words are truth, and the life being sourced from the eternal Godhead (Jn. 1:1-4).
4. The Way of Life (18-31)
    - a. In a way, Jesus summed up these verses in Mat. 16:24-26. Give up your ‘way of life’ and take up Jesus’ way of life.
    - b. Love and obedience. Jesus’ love for the Father yielded obedience and such for our love for Him (21).
    - c. A third disciple chimed in with a question (22). Another good question. The answer is how we live (life, or our way of life). Jesus’ answer is love produces obedience vv. 23-24. This is important for us to get right. Obedience doesn’t earn love but express it. The more we truly know God, we love Him; and the more we know Him, the more we trust Him. The more we trust Him, the more we obey Him. See vv. 15, 21, 23, 24; 1 Jn. 2:3; 5:3; 2 Jn. 6.
    - d. Jesus again offers them peace (27) and has given them notice ahead of time so that they will be strengthened in faith when such happens (29). Therefore, v. 30 is no turn of events but according to plan.
    - e. V. 31 Jesus stated “I love the Father.” He was perfectly obedient to Him. Jesus also loves us! He obeyed the Father’s plan and He willingly laid down His life for us because He loved us! He took the time to tell them and us all these things so that we would know Him and know His way of life Mat. 5:17-19.