

## NEWSLETTER 2022-3

To: My Fellow Saints

Date: June 10, 2022

Re: **Disturbing Situations but Do Not Be Troubled**

Beloved, I greet you all in the precious name of Jesus Christ our soon coming King! The cries, complaints and calamities continues on a daily but and we have been warned about these situations in the Word of God, for example Matt. 24; 2 Tim. 3; etc. These situations bring to focus the song: **Jesus is Coming Soon . . . Note the first verse:**

Troublesome times are here, filling men's hearts with fear  
Freedom we all hold dear now is at stake  
Humbling your hearts to God saves from the chastening rod  
Seek the way pilgrims trod, Christians awake.

We will not, for a moment, overlook the hurts, hopelessness and humanitarian crises all over the world but we are not a people without hope! Indeed, there are so many troubled souls and so many resorting to seemingly workable solutions that does not help. Beloved, the challenges are real but it's not all darkness, desolation or desperation for our hope is in Jesus Christ!

### **The song: What a Beautiful Name**

#### Partial quote

What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus Christ my King  
What a beautiful Name it is  
Nothing compares to this  
What a beautiful Name it is  
What a beautiful Name it is  
The Name of Jesus

Today we will briefly discuss John 14:1-4, a well-known reference and one that fundamentally is based on **trust**. I have identified six main points for our brief discussion. Keep in mind these pointers are highlights and I pray that you will be richly blessed!

#### **The Divisions:**

1. Command: Do Not Be Disturbed Stay Focused (v. 1).
2. Confidence Instilled . . . God Has a Home for You (v. 2a).
3. Change is Inevitable . . . Preparation to Be Made for You (v. 2b).
4. Coming Again . . . The return of Christ (v. 3a).
5. Community of the Future . . . In His Very Presence (v. 3b).
6. Course (The Way) is Through Jesus Christ (v. 4)

Christ and His disciples had just completed the Last Supper (John 13) and several challenging factors surfaced:

1. Christ spoke of His betrayal by Judas (John 13:18-30).
2. He noted that Peter would deny Him (John 13:36-38).
3. A most disturbing factor was Christ's announcement of His eminent departure.
  - (a) After three years of bonding and witnessing all that Christ did, He spoke of leaving.
  - (b) Even more disturbing was the fact that they (the disciples) would not be able to immediately be with Jesus when He leaves. This was not just some ordinary leader but their beloved teacher and He was leaving.

Sometimes we hastily (unfortunately so) respond to challenging situations before consulting God (we should always consult with God, big or small issues; before, during and after). For the disciples (John 13-14) the outlook was somewhat discouraging: Christ's departure; one of their own would turn against them and the stalwart leader among them would cave-in and fail as a loyal disciple. Definitely, it seems as if the sand was shifting beneath their feet and total collapse would be realized.

The reality is, Christ could have given far more details, for example: His arrest, trial, scourging, crucifixion and death. He could have also pointed out that they (the disciples) would all abandoned Him; as well as other related facts but He gave them sufficient information of what was to come which would make or break their faith.

These verses (John 14:1-4) are all about **trust**. Beloved, **trust** and **faith** are inseparable, no matter the situation, we must continue to fully **trust** God: Psa. 37:3, 5; Prov. 3:5-6; etc. **No matter what is the circumstance Jesus Christ is still the Way Maker!!**

#### **A. Command: Do Not Be Distracted Stay Focus John 14:1**

1. **Christ's Response to the Disciples' Anxiety** (John 14:1a)
 

*"Let not your heart be troubled"* (John 14:1a NKJV).

  - (a) As noted above, the disciples were overcome by anxiety, mainly because of Christ's imminent departure (NB John 16:6, 22).
    - (1) Most likely, Christ became aware of their apprehension by what was seen by their countenance or their expressions (example 13:22; 13:36).
    - (2) **Please note:** What we have in John chapters 13-17 (some source chapters 14-17) has been referred to as "Christ's Farewell Discourse," which was presented at the conclusion of the Last Supper ... this was the night before Christ's crucifixion. **Many scholars refer to this discourse as the most beautiful, because it is so tender, and full of much thoughts beneficial to produce comfort and assurance!**
  - (b) Barnes notes:

*"It is the consolatory part of our religion, where Christ brings to bear on the mind full of anxiety, and perplexity, and care, the tender and inimitably*

***beautiful truths of His gospel – truths fitted to ally every fear, silence every murmur, and give every needed consolation to the soul.”***

(c) ***“Let not your heart be troubled”*** (John 14:1a NKJV).

- (1) Some believe this statement referred to Peter because of his imminent denial of Christ (John 13:38). But the greater reference points to all the apostles (disciples) through whom Jesus intended to lay the foundation of the Church.
- (2) It was a natural feeling that the disciples were so moved with anxiety especially that they were still in the learning/developing process. Beloved, we do have our challenges, and as with the disciples Christ’s words are words of comfort, consolation and assurance! Our hope is built on Jesus Christ and His love, faithfulness, etc.

2. **Consolation by Confiding in God and Christ** (John 14:1b)

*“You believe in God, believe also in Me.”* (John 14:1b NKJV)

- (a) The challenge is to: ***“Believe on God the Father and believe on God the Son”*** . . . in essence there is one God who manifests Himself in three personalities (1 John 5:7; etc.).
- (b) **Jesus told the disciples that their consolation was to be found by their confidence in God (The Father) and in Him; He made it specifically clear what He had often told them and the Jews, that there was an indissoluble union between Him and the Father** (John 10:30, 38; 14:10; 17:11, 22).
- (c) Oh! Beloved! Whatever challenges you may encounter, it is my prayer that you will continue looking to Jesus the Author and Finisher of your faith (Heb. 12:2). Keep pressing on!! And **Believe in** (John 14:1b). That is: Put confidence in . . . rely on . . . for support and consolation.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

*I will not cover in details all our Main Points as originally intended; however, I will:*

1. *Share highlighted pointers as possible.*
2. *At the close I will include the Main Outline.*
3. *As God leads and enables, I will develop a more detailed study and have it added to our website.*

**B. Confidence, Instilled . . . God Has a Home for You! John 14:2a.**

1. This phrase (John 14:2a) clearly refers to heaven. That is where Jesus went after His death, resurrection and ascension to prepare a place for us (John 14:2a; Matt. 6:9; compare with Psa. 33:13-14; Isa. 63:15).
2. Beloved, God has a home where there are many rooms and to which ***“the household of God”*** now on earth (Eph. 2:19) will be transferred; ***“here we have no continuing city”*** (Heb. 13:14).
3. Beloved, sin has ruined man and the world, despite the awful state we must remember, this world is not our home we are pilgrims passing through:

**This World Is Not My Home****Verse 1**

This world is not my home  
 I'm a passing through  
 My treasures are laid up  
 Somewhere beyond the blue.

4. The word ***mansions (John 14:2a)*** means ***abiding place***. It is referring to: places; residences, rooms, dwellings, areas, spaces for living.
  - (a) Oh! Beloved! What a glorious hope! ***“Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us . . .”*** (Rom. 5:5a Amplified Bible)
  - (b) While we have countless people who are homeless, whether such conditions were created through wars, poverty, etc. in contrast we have seen here that God has guaranteed a place for everyone who have committed themselves to Him!!

**C. Change is Inevitable . . . Preparation to Be Made for Us! John 14:2b.**

1. ***“I go to . . .”*** (14:2b) By His *going* it refers to His death and ascension. He was going on before to make necessary preparations.
2. His work in heaven is to secure our admission and obtain for us the blessing of eternal life (Heb. 10:12; 13:19-22; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18; etc.).

**D. Coming Again . . . The Return of Christ John 14:3a**

1. ***“I will come again”*** (John 14:3). Christ returned to heaven and even so He will come again, returning from His Father’s presence and will take His followers with Him (John 17:24). **This was the hope of the NT Christians and it is the hope of ALL Christians!!**
2. ***“. . . receive you to Myself”*** (John 14:3). The words ***“receive you to Myself”*** refers to the rapture when all living and deceased believers ***“. . . shall be caught up . . . in the clouds, to meet the LORD in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord”*** (1 Thess. 4:17, see Vv. 13-18).
3. **Glorious news, Beloved!** Christ’s return for His devoted followers will deliver them from future time of severe trial that definitely will come upon the earth (see Luke 21:36; note carefully 1 Thess. 1:10; 5:1-9; Rev. 3:10; etc.).
4. **This glorious and eternal reunion is a comforting doctrine for all followers of Jesus Christ who forever will “be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words”** (1 Thess. 4:17-18).

**E. Course (The Way) is Through Jesus Christ John 14:4.**

***“And where I go you know; and the way you know”*** (14:4 NKJV)

1. A quick recap in order to explain v. 4.

- (a) Peter had asked the question, **“Lord where are You going”** (13:36), Jesus answer had described Peter’s weakness (13:36) and his denial (13:38). His answer had also included some great and glorious promises (John 14:1-3).
- (b) What we observe at this point is a concluding statement that was directed to all disciples, our blessed Lord answered emphatically, **“And where I go you know, and the way you know”** (14:4).
2. **“The way you know . . . “that** is, the way that leads to the dwelling-place to which He (Christ) was going.
- (a) It was the way that they were to habitually travel on, which requires obedience to its precepts and literally imitate Christ’s example and daily follow Him! (Eph. 5:1 see the NKJV).
- (b) The way to this glorious life is in Jesus Christ, this Christ made clear also noted in John 14 (John 14:6; Heb. 10:20).
- (c) Beloved, challenging and difficult situations will be experienced but we are assured of victory; sometimes it seems that there is no way out but even then we must remain steadfast and unmovable (1 Cor. 15:58); victory will be realized through Jesus Christ! **He was, is and will always be The Way Maker** (Rom. 8:28-39, NB v. 37).
- (1) **Ex. 14:16 Amp. Bible**  
 “Lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the Israelites shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.”
- (2) See also John 3:17; Prov. 15:19; Isa. 42:16; 43:14-21, NB v. 16; etc.

**Way Maker . . . Partial quote:**

You are moving in our midst

I worship You

I worship You

... ..

You are here, working in this place

I worship You

I worship You

... ..

You are

Way Maker, miracle worker, promise keeper

Light in the darkness, my God

That is who You are

... ..

Even when I don't see it, You're working  
Even when I don't see it, You're working  
You never stop, You never stop working  
You never stop, You never stop working

**John 14:1 Amplified Bible**

“Do NOT let your hearts be troubled (distressed, agitated). You believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely on God; believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely also on Me.”

**Website Update**

We have added Psa. 10 Parts A and B, Psa. 14; including the answers for review questions. Psalm 15 is in process and will be added possible late June to early July. I will, God enabling have John 14:1-4 reviewed and presented in a more detailed study.

I do continue to encourage you to access these lessons and share them with others. Accessing the website is functioning effectively through computers, laptops tablets and works well with cell phones when you use for your browser either Fire Fox or Internet Explorer.

Beloved, we are workers together to the glory of God and you will agree that the demands of the Word of God is needed now more than ever. Let us remain united and let God be glorified in all that we do to His honor and His glory.

God richly bless you and your family.

Yours-in-Christ  
Bishop K. Wright

**It is with pleasure that I present the following outline of John 14:1-4.** As promised I will, God enabling me have the developed lesson added to the website sometime in the near future.

## **Disturbing Situations . . . But Do Not Be Troubled!**

### **John 14:1-4**

#### **A. Command: Do Not Be Disturbed, Stay Focused John 14:1**

1. Christ's Response to the Disciple's Anxiety (John 14:1a)  
*"Let not your heart be troubled" (14:1a NKJV)*
2. Consolation by Confiding in God and Christ (John 14:1b)  
*"You believe in God, believe also in Me" (14:1b NKJV)*

#### **B. Confidence Instilled . . . God Has a Home for You! John 14:2a**

1. Abiding Place for the People of God (14:2a)  
*"In my Father's house are many mansions" (14:2a NKJV)*
2. Assurance of Our Inheritance in God (14:2a)  
*"If it were not so, I would have told you" (14:2a NKJV)*

#### **C. Change is Inevitable . . . Preparation to Be Made for You John 14:2b**

1. Paving the Way for Our Salvation (14:2b)  
*"I go to prepare . . ." (14:2b NKJV)*
2. Place for the Redeemed (14:2b)  
*". . . a place for you" (14:2b NKJV)*

#### **D. Coming Again . . . The Return of Christ John 14:3a**

1. Return of the Fore-Runner (14:3a)  
*"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again" (14:3a NKJV)*
2. Receiving the Bride . . . The Church (14:3a)  
*". . . and receive you unto myself" (14:3a NKJV)*

#### **E. Community of the Future – In His Very Presence John 14:3b**

1. Fellowship with the King of Kings (14:3b)  
*". . . that where I go there you may be also" (14:3b NKJV)*
2. Former Things Passed Away (Rev. 21 . . . **limited pointers**)

#### **F. Course (The Way) is Through Jesus Christ (John 14:4)**

1. Where I Go (14:4a)  
*"And where I go you know . . ." (14:4a NKJV)*

2. Way that Leads Home (14:4b)  
*"... and the way you know" (14:4b NKJV)*