

You Do Not Have To Be Troubled

John 14:1-4

I'm glad you could join me today for "It's a Good Life." We'll be looking in the book of John chapter 14 in just a moment. Verse 1 says, *Let not your heart be troubled....* Jesus was getting ready to leave, and He knew that the disciples' hearts were troubled. There were several reasons, and He knew every one of them. He knew the reason their hearts were troubled, and we'll look at that in just a moment.

First, let me invite you to look at our website again today, www.LRWM.org. Go to the website and you'll be able to download a transcript of this program and other programs of "It's a Good Life." It won't cost you anything. You can download those free. And if you would like a written transcript absolutely free, write me today, Lewis Woodard, 497 Judith Avenue, Fruitland Park, FL 34731.

In the book of John chapter 14, Jesus said, *Let not your heart be troubled....* Jesus was telling the disciples this because He had looked into their hearts and He understood that one of the twelve would betray Him. He understood that they knew their Master was troubled. In verse 21 of John chapter 13, it says, *When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.*

And then we understand that, as the disciples looked around, there was naturally a little bit of confusion. They were confused. They didn't understand everything going on, and there was a warning that had been given to Peter in John chapter 13 and verse 38. *Jesus answered him, Wilt thou lay down thy life for my sake? Verily, verily, I say unto thee, The cock shall not crow, till thou hast denied me thrice.*

What a blow this must have been to Peter as His Master told him, "You will not only deny me once; you're going to deny me three times." But Jesus quickly adds, *Let not your heart be troubled....*

Now, there are three effects of a troubled heart. First of all, a troubled heart gives a doubtful, fretful spirit that takes away joy from the believer. Secondly, it makes that which is bad worse. And then, third, I suppose the worst of all is it dishonors God.

Now there are five reasons that Christians should not be troubled today. *Let not your heart be troubled*, because first of all of the prospective home that awaits the Christian. In verses 1 and 2, it says, *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 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.* It's a prospective home that awaits the Christian today. The person who has trusted Jesus as Savior.

But notice verses 2 and 3. It's a prepared place. *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. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also.*

It's a place of preparation, and not only is it a place of preparation, but it is a planned place. Jesus said, *I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, [there] ye may be also.* It's a place of preparation; it's a planned place; and notice there is a planned reception in that verse, in verse 3. He said, *I will come again, and receive you unto myself....* Now, that's a promise.

We will either see Jesus as we fall asleep in Him as a Christian. In other words, as we die as a human, as we go to be with the Lord, we will see Him. But we also have a promise that there may be an opportunity for us to meet Him in the clouds without dying. It says that we shall be changed in a moment in the twinkling of an eye. It makes no difference how we go to meet the Lord. It's a planned reception.

The psalmist said in Psalm 23, *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou [art] with me....* What was he saying? He was saying, *Let not your heart be troubled.*

Notice something else. Not only is it a prospective home that awaits the Christian and one of the reasons we should not have a troubled heart, because there is a perfect way; that is another reason. The appointed destination to which Jesus was going is found in verse 4, and He said, *And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.*

And notice also, it was the approved way to the Father. In verse 6, He gives us that way. *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.* Jesus said, "There is no other way to Heaven. There is no „social“ Gospel. There is no other way to Heaven except through Me. You must receive Me as your Savior. You must come by the way of the cross. You must receive the blood of Christ. You must accept the fact that I died for you," that Jesus saying, "I have gone to the cross; I have shed my blood; I was buried; I was resurrected that you could have eternal life." And He says, *Let not your heart be troubled....*

And notice there is an accepted condition to travel this way....by faith. *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: [it is] the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast [Ephesians 2:8-9].*

And notice another reason the Christian should not be troubled today. The heart should not be troubled because of the privilege of prayer. In verse 13, it says in John chapter 14: *And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*

We often get the wrong idea about prayer, I believe. We think sometimes that, "Well, I shouldn't pray because I'm just bothering God. I shouldn't go to Him in prayer." But you know, that's not what the Bible teaches, especially in our verse here in chapter 14 and verse 13. It says that we need to go to the Lord in prayer that the Father may be glorified in His Son. We bring honor and glory to the Father through the Son by asking things in His name.

Prayer is a sin killer. Prayer will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from prayer. Prayer is an obstacle remover. Prayer is a blessing bringer. We need to stay in an attitude of prayer. We need to not walk around with our heads bowed all the time. We don't have to do that, but we need to have a sense of prayer, a closeness with God as we go through our daily lives.

Notice also that there is a powerful Spirit, Jesus said, that would come. He said, "I'm not going to leave you comfortless." Notice in verses 16 and 17 of John chapter 14: *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; [Even] the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

The Spirit would come. He would indwell the believers. He would indwell us because we are believers who have trusted Jesus as our Savior.

In Matthew chapter 4, we read about the temptation of Christ as to how the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. We also understand

that, after the temptation of Jesus by Satan that ministering angels came to Him. Ministering spirits came and they ministered unto Jesus. They took care of Him. But this same Spirit who led Jesus into the wilderness is the same Spirit who led Him out of that tomb. He led Him out.

And we notice in verse 18 here, it says, *I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.* Jesus would give comfort. He would give comfort not only by sending the Holy Spirit, but He gave them comfort here by saying, "I am going to come back to you."

And notice something else. He would give His Spirit to teach us. The Holy Spirit will teach those who have trusted Jesus as Savior. He said, "I'll not leave you comfortless, but I'm going to leave you the Spirit. I'm going to send the Spirit that He will lead you into all truth." And do you know that as an unsaved person today, if you're listening, that's what the Spirit wants to do with you today. He wants to lead you into all truth. He wants to help you understand that you need Jesus as your Savior.

And then, finally, we see that our hearts should not be troubled because of abiding peace that Jesus gives. It's a peace that settles the troubled heart. It's a peace that satisfies the longing heart. It's a peace that sustains the weary heart. *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.*

Now, you may be troubled today. You may have a troubled heart. If you're a saved person, let me say this to you. It makes no difference what you're going through. I may not have experienced what you're going through, but Jesus did. The Bible says that He has experienced everything and anything that any person has ever gone through. Jesus knows your heart today. He knows if your heart is troubled, and He says, *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.* Jesus wants your heart to be happy today. He

wants you to understand that He's there. He's there for you. Turn your care upon Him today. Give your burdens to Him. Go to Him in prayer. Let Him handle the problems of your life.

Maybe you need to pray the prayer of the psalmist. *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou [art] with me....* Jesus will be with you no matter where you go after you ask Him into your heart. If you've done that, He's with you right now. Let me pray for you.

Father, I pray for that person today who has a troubled heart. I pray that that individual would understand that You're there. I pray that You would put Your arms that individual. Help that person to understand Your Word today that we've read. *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God; believe also in me.* And Lord, I pray that You would give the comfort that's necessary to that person today who needs it. And Father, I also pray for that person today who is listening who does not know you as Savior. I pray that individual would ask You to come into their heart right now. In Jesus' name, amen.

Now, the Lord loves you today and He wants you to be happy. *Let not your heart be troubled.* And if you've never trusted Him as your Savior, He doesn't want your heart to be troubled either. He wants you to be saved. He wants you to ask Him to come into your heart.

Well, it's been a joy once again coming to you today and sharing with you the Word of God, and let me invite you once again to look at our website, www.LRWM.org. You could write me at Lewis Woodard, 497 Judith Avenue, Fruitland Park, FL 34731, and I'll be glad to send you a free transcript of this program.

Until the next time, may the Lord bless you richly is my prayer.