

John: The Great "I AM" Gospel John 14:1-6 From Sermon 10.20.24

Read John 14:1-6

Overview from Sunday's sermon: <u>Intimately knowing human hearts</u>, <u>Jesus knows the confusion and dismay that the Apostles will face in His coming trial</u>, <u>execution</u>, and <u>departure</u>. <u>After instructing them on the need for love and unity going forward</u>, <u>He now addresses that inner turmoil with promises of peace</u>. <u>Everything comes back to Jesus</u>. <u>Not the faithfulness of the Apostles nor their failures—but Him. He is the way, the truth, and the life. And, at times, that is all Saints have to hold on to.</u>

- 1. To where do you turn when life is challenging? Where do you find comfort when the cost of being a faithful believer is high and painful? <u>Various personal answers.</u>
- 2. Based on the text, what three phases of Comfort in Christ were covered on Sunday?
 - Peace with God: <u>Reconciliation</u>. <u>Transformed from enemies to family</u>.
 - Peace <u>in our current Trials and Pains</u>: We are never alone. They serve some purpose. We can use our comfort in Christ to, in turn, comfort others.
 - Peace promise: For a future free of trials and pain in glorious union with Him.
- 3. Jesus' words of comfort contain a promise...a prophetic promise. [3 "R" words]
 - Return: "I will come again..."
 - Rapture: "...and receive you unto Myself."
 - Reunion: "...that where I AM you may be also." See also 1 Thessalonians 4:15-18
- 4. Re-read the first part of verse 6. What's the most important word in Jesus' proclamation? "The". The Definite article. Vs. "a" way, truth, and life = one of many. The prevailing world view is that all religions are basically the same: be sincere, be nice, do more good than bad. Avoid the biggie sins. Jesus destroys that philosophy.
- 5. Just to be crystal clear, He follows it up with this concrete proclamation: "No one comes to the Father but through Me". Why would He need a double layer of doctrine? Because He knows the human heart and the historic practice of distorting the Word of God. Even if some alter that definite article (the), they cannot subtly dismiss this. Everyone must do something with this exclusivity claim. See also Acts 4:12, Philippians 2:9-11, & 1 Timothy 2:5
- 6. Why do you suppose the world hates the doctrine of the exclusivity of salvation in Jesus Christ alone? Like everything, it goes back to sin (being exposed and accountable to a Holy God) and serving the god of self—making a god to my liking, my desires, my wishes, my benefit. Other times, we desperately want to believe our non-Christian friends and family will be okay in eternity.

Check out these "The Way" passages: Acts 9:2, 19:2 &23, 22:4, & 24:14