

## CHAPTER

# 14

As was mentioned in the introduction, half of the Gospel of John is about the events of the last week of Jesus' life on earth. Chapters 14 through 17 are addresses to the chosen twelve who are called apostles. After the defection of Judas, there were only eleven. The purpose of the teachings of these chapters was to comfort the apostles and to prepare them for the shock of His departure. They contain expressions of love and concern, encouragement for faithfulness, and promises of the coming of the Holy Spirit and of the coming again of Jesus the Christ. Read the entire chapter.

**Verses 1 through 3.** These verses are full of comfort for those who have lost loved ones and are often used as the text for funeral sermons. However interpreted, they show that there is a place being prepared for every one of God's children. They promise that Christ Himself is coming again to receive and escort us to our new home, and we will live forever in His near presence.

297. True or False? In this passage, Jesus assured us that we are not to be troubled by the thought of death, neither our own death nor the death of loved ones. He is coming again to receive His own and we will live forever in His presence.

**Verses 4 through 6.** Thomas, the Apostle who had to be sure about everything, was not satisfied. Jesus had said that they knew where He was going and they, therefore, should know the way. But Thomas objected, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus replied, I am the way, the truth, and the life.

298. Thomas said that we (the Apostles) do not know where you (Jesus) are going, how can we know the \_\_\_\_\_?

**Verse 6 (continued).** The importance of this verse requires that it receive fuller treatment. Jesus said, "I am the way," that is, if you follow me in this life, you will follow me to heaven. "I am the truth," not only what I say is true, I am truth. "I am the life," I am the source of all life both physical and spiritual. "In Him was life and that life was the light of men." John 1:4.

What are we talking about when we speak of the way to God? We are not talking about a physical pathway into His presence. We are talking about the restoration of man's original state, "in the image of God." This can only occur when one is immersed into Christ and receives the indwelling Spirit as a gift, "born of water and Spirit."

**299.** Jesus Christ is the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_. He is the \_\_\_\_\_ back to God, the \_\_\_\_\_ about God, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

*Verse 7.* Jesus continued, "If you had known me, you would have known my Father also and from now on, you will know Him and have seen Him."

**300.** Jesus said that to \_\_\_\_\_ Him is to \_\_\_\_\_ the Father and to see Him is to see the Father.

*Verses 8 and 9.* Now it was Philip who asked for proof. "Show us the Father and that will satisfy us," was his request. It seemed that Jesus might have lost patience with His disciples over their lack of discernment. They had witnessed His miracles, profited by his teaching, and shared His great love, and still they asked, "Let us see the Father." Jesus replied, "Philip, how is it that you do not understand who I am, even after these months and years of close fellowship? You should understand that one who has seen me has seen the Father. Then how can you say, 'Show us the Father?'" Were Philip and the others lacking in faith or had they failed to understand who Jesus really was? We cannot know, but we do know that Jesus was disappointed in His disciples.

**301.** In their request to be shown the Father, the disciples showed a lack of \_\_\_\_\_ who Jesus really was.

*Verses 10 and 11.* Jesus' question was a mild rebuke to Philip, "Do you not believe it when I tell you that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? Even what I say is not of myself, but I speak the words My Father gives me and the things I do are really the works of My Father. You should be able to see for yourself that it is the Father working in me that does these works."

**302.** Jesus questioned the \_\_\_\_\_ of the disciples in that they had failed to realize that He and the Father were one.

*Verses 12 and 13.* We, today, are much like Philip, Thomas, and the rest of the disciples. We also fail to grasp the full meaning of what Jesus taught here. The church today seems almost a failure in facing up to the sinful, self-centered, and materialistic philosophies which prevail in the world we know. We fail to have laid hold of the tremendous resources of the almighty God, promised in these words of Jesus. We should accept these teachings with the simple faith of a child rather than following the sophisticated rationalizations of the theologian. Jesus met every human need, physical, psychological, and spiritual. The whole church should be ministering to the entire needs of man that he may again be whole.

**303.** True or False? The church today is suffering from the same weaknesses that Jesus saw and criticized in His disciples.

**Verse 14.** This seems like a repetition of a previous statement, but it contains an added thought, "in my name." Something asked in His name must be in accord with God's will and that will bring glory to Christ and God.

**304.** To ask in Jesus' name is to ask something that is in \_\_\_\_\_  
with the will of God.

**Verses 15 through 17.** Jesus' commandments differ greatly from those given by God through Moses. They were legalistic and had to do with man's behavior. Jesus' commandments have to do with the inner man, the heart. The motivation for keeping the "Ten Commandments" was fear of punishment. The motivation for obeying Jesus is love. "If you love me, obey me," He says. "And if you obey my commands, I will pray the Father, and He will send you another Comforter, the Holy Spirit; even He lives with you and shall live in you." One could write pages attempting to explain the mystery of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Books have been written on that subject. We will only say that He is the Spirit of Truth, found in His perfection in the Father and Son. He came in power upon the day of Pentecost, fulfilling Christ's promise and empowering the Apostles with miraculous gifts. He is promised to all who believe and obey as an indwelling presence. See Acts 2:38, 5:32.

**305.** True or False? Jesus promised the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, to the Apostles if they obeyed His commands, but today only those who receive the blessing of the Pope of Rome can receive Him.

**Verse 18.** The Greek word is PARACLETE and a better translation is "helper" or "encourager." Think of someone who would go along with you on a difficult trip just to help; that will give you a good idea of the office of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, "In reality, I will be coming to you in the 'helper' I will send."

**306.** Jesus said, "I will not leave you as orphans, I will send a \_\_\_\_\_  
who will encourage you and it will be as if I, myself, were there."

**Verse 19.** Jesus continued, "In a little while, I will be leaving this world, but you will see me again, for you will be with me. Because I live, you also, will live." Jesus was foretelling His death and resurrection and assured His disciples of their resurrection also.

**307.** Jesus reassured His disciples by telling them that their separation would be only temporary, that because He \_\_\_\_\_ they too shall \_\_\_\_\_.

**Verse 20.** Jesus repeated in a slightly different language what He had said previously, that He and the Father were one. This was a truth difficult for the disciples to receive but when the disciples are united with Him in heaven, they will see and know that this is true. He added another dimension to this revelation when He said, "You are in me and I am in you." We believe that this union of the

believer with Christ is accomplished in His church through the work of the Holy Spirit.

**308.** Jesus told His disciples that the day would come when they would

\_\_\_\_\_ that "I am in my Father and also that you are in Me and I am in you".

**Verse 21.** Jesus had previously said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Now He says, "If a man knows my commandments and keeps them, it shows that He loves me." (This is called a corollary. If the first statement is true, it follows that the second must be true also.) Jesus continued, "Because he loves me, My Father and I will love him, and I will make myself known to him." These wonderful promises are so important, so far reaching, that they are hard to comprehend. We agree with J.W. McGarvey's analysis quoted here, "Jesus here speaks of His return in the spirit and His inward manifestation of Himself to His disciples wherein He energizes them with His own life."

**309.** A person who keeps Christ's commands will be \_\_\_\_\_ by Him

and by the Father also, and Jesus will manifest Himself to him by

\_\_\_\_\_ his life.

**Verses 22 and 23.** It was Judas, otherwise known as Thaddeus, who now questioned Jesus. "How is it Lord, that you will make yourself known to us and not to the world?" He was still thinking that the Messiah would manifest Himself to the world as a king. Jesus did not answer his question directly, but He tried to make Thaddeus understand that the kingdom He was about to establish was a spiritual one and not a worldly kingdom. He repeated the promise He had made previously and added, "And My Father will love him, and **we** will come unto him and make **our** abode with him."

**310.** Jesus answered Thaddeus by trying to make him \_\_\_\_\_ His

kingdom was a Spiritual kingdom and His relationship with His followers was a

personal one. He will not force His way into a heart that is not open to Him and

will not manifest Himself to an \_\_\_\_\_ world.

**Verse 24.** For emphasis, Jesus stated in a negative way what He had stated positively before. "He that does not love me, does not obey my word, even though this word is from My Father."

**311.** Jesus insisted that \_\_\_\_\_ to His word is the test of the

believers love for Him.

**Verses 25 and 26.** Jesus continued to comfort His disciples and to prepare them for His departure. While still with them, He emphasized the important teachings He had already given and repeated the promise of the Holy Spirit who had taught them. Of the writers of the Gospels, only John and Matthew were present when this promise was given but since there were no contradictions in these accounts, it is safe to assume that the help of the Holy Spirit was available to all of the writers. It is interesting to note that the office of the Holy Spirit was not only to "bring to remembrance" but also to "teach," and this was necessary because the disciples had not fully understood all that Jesus had taught.

**312.** Jesus comforted His disciples with the promise of the Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in Jesus' name, who would \_\_\_\_\_ them all things and bring all things to their \_\_\_\_\_.

**Verse 27.** The "world" as used here means the world of man's making. It can bring pleasure and excitement, also, fear and frustration or pain and sorrow. Only Christ can give peace of mind and heart. Worry, frustration, and fear are the great enemies of peace and Christ promises to take care of these if we trust Him.

**313.** Jesus Christ gives peace to the heart by taking care of every \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Verse 28.** Jesus continued, "As I told you before, I am going away and will return to you. You should rejoice, and if you really loved me you would rejoice, for I am going to My Father, who is greater than I am." Jesus repeatedly claimed oneness with the Father. How could He now say, "The Father is greater than I"? I think it is because in a father-son relationship, the father has seniority.

**314.** The disciples should have \_\_\_\_\_ when Jesus told them He was leaving to go and be with the Father.

**Verse 29.** Jesus knew that His disciples would not understand many of His prophecies, but He also knew that their faith would be strengthened when they witnessed these things coming to pass and they would understand.

**315.** Jesus foretold future events in order that the \_\_\_\_\_ of His disciples would be strengthened when they observed these things coming to pass.

**Verses 30 and 31.** Jesus said that He had not much more to say as the time was short, for the messengers of Satan would soon arrive and carry out their intent. "They really have no power over Me but I must do the will of My Father, and the world will have this witness that I love the Father." Jesus was speaking of His coming trial and death. He was willing to pay the price for the salvation of sinful

man, the plan that He and the Father had agreed on before the foundation of the world.

**316.** Jesus said that His willingness to carry out His Father's will, even though it cost Him His life, would show the world His \_\_\_\_\_ for the Father.

***ANSWERS:***

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|---|-------------------------------|
| 297. True                               | 307. Lives, live              |
| 298. Way                                | 308. Know                     |
| 299. Way, truth, life, way, truth, life | 309. Loved, energizing        |
| 300. know, know                         | 310. Understand, unbelieving  |
| 301. Discernment                        | 311. Obedience                |
| 302. Faith                              | 312. Teach, remembrance       |
| 303. True                               | 313. Worry, frustration, fear |
| 304. Accord                             | 314. Rejoiced                 |
| 305. False                              | 315. Faith                    |
| 306. Helper                             | 316. Love                     |

**NOTE:** Take Test 2 which is located on the Gospel of John download page.