Jan. 27, 2019 a.m.

“IN MY FATHER’S HOUSE”

Reading: **John 14:1-6**

**Where was Jesus going? How was He going to get there?**

**What was He going to do when He got there?**

**Let’s go back and look at some of Jesus’ words prior to these in John 14.**

* **John 7:33-36**
* *“I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me. You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you cannot come.”* ***(33-34)***
* **John 8:20-22, 28**
* *“I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come.”*
* Why could they to go where He was going?
* Because they refused to believe that He was the Christ.
* *“When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He….”* ***(28)***
* **John 12:23-24, 32-33**
* *“The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.”*
* But He had to die first. He had to be lifted up.
* Jesus had been trying to prepare the apostles for this for some time.
* **Mark 8:31; 9:31-32 –** *they did not understand;* **Luke 18:31-34**
* **John 13:31-37**
* Jesus: *“Little children, I shall be with you a little while longer. You will seek Me; and as I said to the Jews, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come,’ so now I say to you.”*
* Peter: *“Lord, where are You going?”*
* Jesus: *“Where I am going you cannot follow Me now, but you shall follow Me afterward.”*
* Peter: *“Lord, why can I not follow you now?”*
* Peter wasn’t ready to follow the Lord – He wouldn’t follow Him that night.

**NOW WE COME TO JOHN 14:1-16**

* When were these things spoken by Jesus? What was about to happen in the next 12 hours?

What was going to be the reaction of the apostles? The three hardest days of their lives!

* *“Let not your heart be troubled….”*
* To put it kindly, *mansion* is very poor translation. (I am no expert at translation!)
* The ESV reads, *“in My Father’s house are many rooms….”*
* “a staying, i.e. residence (the act or the place)” (Strong’s)
* The word is found twice in the NT and the other time is in ***verse 23*** of this chapter.
* If we love Jesus and keep His word, He and the Father will come and make their ***home*** with us!
* When you hear the following words in the rest of the NT, what do you think of?
* *“… I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God”* (**1 Tim. 3:15**) Then he writes, *“… which is the church of the living God…”*
* *“But Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are….”* (**Heb. 3:6**)
* *“members of the household of God”* (**Eph. 2:19**) See also **Heb. 10:21**; **1 Pet. 4:17**
* “*Mansion*” leaves us thinking and hoping for that which will not be.
* If we are looking forward to going to heaven because we will have something like the Biltmore House or a castle on the Rhine or the White House, we are looking forward to being there for all the wrong reasons.
* We will not have a gold one that is silver lined with “My Pillows” instead of the “stone” pillows we sleep on now.
* We should not think of heaven as the place where we get to enjoy what we already enjoy (love) here, just without all the problems associated with those things here.
* Finally, a house that doesn’t need repair!
* We will NOT have our OWN house in heaven!
* It is God’s house! It is not ours!
* Heaven is not about what we will own, it is about being owned by the Owner.
* He wasn’t going to prepare (build) us a house in heaven.
* He was going to build a place (make room) for us so we can go to heaven.
* ‘In My Father’s house are many houses’ is not what the passage teaches.
* That place, that room, is being at home with the Father and the Son, becoming one of His children – a member of His household which is His church.
* We have to be in His church (in His house) to have the hope of heaven.
* *“Even to them I will give in My house and within My walls a place”* (**Isa. 56:5**)
* He wants to start making His *home* with us now! ***(23)***
* He has made a room for us. He has made a place for us at His table.
* It’s not so much the place, it’s the act. (remember the definition)
* And that room is enough! Just give me an apartment in His house.
* *“I will come again”*
* His resurrection? His second coming? Why not the former?
* Was He preparing them for His ascension that took place 40 days later?
* *That where I am* – note the present tense.
* It was as if He was already there. He had already prepared the place. He had already made the way for them to come. He was going to do His Father’s will no matter what, even if that way led to the cross. He would be in the position (place) to save us.
* Jesus was going back to heaven to sit at the right hand of His Father. (**1 Pet. 3:22**)
* *“And where I go you know, and the way you know.”*
* Jesus had been telling them that He would die and be raised the 3rd day.
* But they didn’t understand. They didn’t believe.
* But they would after it all had happened, even if they were slow to do so.
* *“And now I have told you before it comes* (death, burial and resurrection)*, that when it does come to pass, you will believe.”* (**14:29**)
* They knew the way was by faith and by keeping His word. ***(v. 23)***
* They knew more about that way than they might have realized. But did they believe?
* Thomas: *“Lord, we do not know….?”*
* *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

**Are you following His way? Do you believe Jesus?**

**Are you obeying His truth? Are you keeping His word?**

**Have you made His life your life? Are you in His house?**