

Getting to Heaven

~ John 14.1-6 ~

Context of John 14

- **Jesus is with his apostles, observing the Passover meal in the prepared room (John 13).**
 - ▶ **Jesus has washed the feet of the apostles (13.5)**
 - ▶ **Jesus has spoken of His betrayal (13.21ff)**
 - ▶ **The Lord's Supper was instituted (Matthew 26.26ff)**
 - ▶ **John 14-17 occupies the time from after the establishment of the Lord's Supper to the arrival at Gethsemane's garden**

Comfort and Assurance

- **Jesus identifies His death will soon occur (14.1ff)**
 - ▶ **How could the disciples carry on in His absence?**
 - His absence would not be permanent - 14.3
 - Where He was going they, too, could go - 14.3,6
 - He would send a Helper to them - 14.16
 - The Holy Spirit, the Helper, would guide them, enlighten them, and inspire them - 14.17; 16.7,12-15
 - ▶ **Jesus didn't (and doesn't) abandon His followers**

Where is Heaven?

- **Heaven is not revealed in terms of geography**
 - ▶ **Just like Scripture (cf. Rev. 21.21), our speech is accommodative at times.**
 - ▶ **“Heaven is up there, right?”**
 - **Matthew 14.19 “looking up toward Heaven” (cf. Acts 1.10f)**
 - ▶ **Heaven is beyond this realm — it is not a part of this creation (2 Peter 3.11f).**

What is Heaven?

- **Jesus described Heaven to His apostles:**
 - ▶ **Heaven is described as God's house (John 14.2)**
 - ▶ **Heaven is where Jesus was going to prepare a place for the apostles (John 14.2)**
 - ▶ **Heaven is where Jesus would come from to receive the apostles unto Himself (John 14.3)**
 - **Confer Acts 1.10-11**
 - ▶ **Heaven is a place beyond this realm (John 14.4-5)**

“How do we get there?”

- **How often our questions are echoed by others!**
- **How do we get to Heaven?**
 - ▶ **It's less about getting to Heaven and more about getting to God (John 14.2,7-12)**
 - **Speaks to us about priority and the true nature of Heaven!**
 - ▶ **What getting to God involves:**
 - **A particular path, truth, and spiritual life (14.6)**
 - ▶ **The only way to get to God is thru Jesus Christ**

Keep separate from Satan - John 17.15

Live like you don't belong here - John 17.16

Be set apart by the truth of God's word - John 17.17

Accept the words of Jesus and His apostles - John 17.20

Find unity, purpose, and hope in Jesus - John 17.21-24

“to the Father through Me”

~ John 14.6 ~