

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ
Last Words: The Way, The Truth, and The Life

Last time...The Lord's Supper aka Communion was instituted by Jesus

This time...Jesus begins speaking His Last Words to His 11 disciples

Including another radical statement that divides/separates all men into 2 camps –
those who believe from those who do not believe

We will be in John 14

v1 Let not your hearts be troubled:

Jesus knows the spiritual and emotional condition of His 11 disciples –
they are troubled, agitated

After hearing Jesus speak of

- not all of them (the 12) are clean
- one of the 12 is going to betray Him this night into the hands of His enemies
- He is leaving them
- their “leader” is this night going to deny even knowing Jesus
- all of them will this night scatter, abandon, fail their Lord
- His (broken) body and (poured out) blood

the 11 are troubled

What is the cure for what ails them?

believe in God, believe also in Me:

The cure for a troubled spirit/soul is...to believe in God and in His Son
believe: to trust, lean on
Heb 11:1

With belief in God comes peace and rest in Him vs in Self or in others

Example: David

Many of the Psalms of David – troubled, end in peace

Ps 42:5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and *why* art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him *for* the help of his countenance.

Ps 42:11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, *who is* the health of my countenance, and my God

Ps 43:5

Ps 42:11

1 Sam 30:6 David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.

What is Jesus saying?

Ex 20:1-6 I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me...for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God

Ex 34:14 thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name *is* Jealous, *is* a jealous God

So Jesus is either breaking the Law and instructing His disciples to also break the Law...or He is saying He is God

v2-3 In My Father's house are many mansions:

Where does the Father live?

Eternity, "heaven", transcending the universe/creation

Is 57:15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name *is* Holy; I dwell in the high and holy *place*, with him also *that is* of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones

In heaven there are many "mansions"...what is the nature of these mansions?

Not earthly mansions like the Queen of England's or Jed Clampett's
But heavenly "abodes, residences"...bodies

1 Cor 15:42-53

2 Cor 4:13 – 5:1

Man was created in the image of God

God is Spirit (John 4:24)

Therefore, the real me is spirit

What you see with your eyes is just my temporary living place...on earth.
This body is not me, I live in this body
Designed to inhabit planet earth
Fearfully and wonderfully made from the dust of the earth...
same 17 elements

Some day I will move out of this temporary, high-maintenance, decaying
living space and move into a perfect, immortal, and eternal place

Designed to inhabit heaven/eternity in the presence of God
Made from...I have no idea

It is true...otherwise Jesus would not have said so!

The Father's words are true, the Alpha and Omega of Truth
Ps 119:160 Thy word *is* true *from* the beginning: and every one
of thy righteous judgments *endureth* for ever

The Father's words are true, and will never change
Ps 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven

The Father's words are true, a blessing to those who receive them
2 Sam 7:28 O Lord GOD, thou *art* that God, and thy words be
true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy
servant

Jesus speaks the words of the Father
So believe Jesus (v1)!

I go to prepare a place for you:

Shadow:

Ex 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the
way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared
Out of bondage into their inheritance

Substance = Jesus
Out of bondage into our inheritance

Where is Jesus going?
To the Father in heaven, returning from whence He came

When He gets to heaven, He will be preparing/making ready a place/body in
heaven for His disciples/followers

Then, He will come again to receive/take them unto Himself so that where He is
(in heaven with the Father), they will be also

After the Resurrection, Jesus came several times in His glorified body to
the 11;

When did Jesus receive them unto Himself?
After their last breath (2 Cor 5:8)

When will Jesus come to and receive us unto Himself?
After our last breath
or
At the Rapture (1 Thes 4:13-18)

He kept His promise to them, He will keep it to us!

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth
not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that,
when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we
shall see him as he is

v4 wither I go...the way:

In v2, Jesus told the 11 He was going to the Father to prepare a place for them.
He has also told them repeatedly the way He is going –
betrayal, suffering (lifted up i.e. Cross), death/grave, and
Resurrection on the 3rd day

v5 we know whiter...how can we know the way:

“Ah, Jesus, we don’t know where You are going so how can we know the way?”

The 11 are blinded by

- pre-conceived ideas about the Messiah and kingdom of God
- traditions of the Jews

Jesus’ plain-speak is troubling (v1)...in part because it does not jive with their
hopes and dreams

v6 I am the way, the truth, and the life:

Jesus responds to Thomas’ idk with another radical statement that
divides/separates all men (Matt 10:34)

I am...v1, Ex 3:14

- The Bread of Life (John 6:35)
- The Light of the World (John 8:12)
- Eternal (John 8:58)
- The Door (John 10:7)
- The Good Shepherd (John 10:11, 14)
- The Son of God (John 10:36)
- The Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25)
- The True Vine (John 15:1)
- The Alpha and Omega (Rev 1:8)
- The First and the Last (Rev 1:17)

the way...singular and exclusive, not consensus and inclusive
no compromise, no "Coexist"

"road"/"means" to heaven

"The highway to heaven" is a lie from the father of lies...

It's not a highway, it is a narrow way

"All roads lead to heaven" (everyone goes to heaven) is another lie
from the father of lies (Universalism)

The Way to heaven is...a Person – Jesus Christ

Our way to heaven is "in Christ"

the truth...singular and exclusive, not consensus and inclusive
no compromise, no "Coexist", timeless

Ps 119:160...the Beginning and End, Alpha and Omega, of Truth

John 17:17

John 1:1, 14

The Truth is...a Person – Jesus Christ

not a proposition or an idea or a creed

not a religion or a philosophy

Truth is...relational, NOT relative

Truth does NOT start with man...God is Truth, Jesus is the Truth

Truth cannot be known unless God is known and Jesus is known

Today, truth is an unstable entity in our humanistic society

- Relative, based on individual needs and desires
"What is true for you may not be true for me."
- Re-written...history is being re-written/revised to fit an
agenda/worldview/political position

But, Truth is absolute and unchanging

- Textbooks become obsolete as man's finite knowledge
increases but the Word of the Infinite God never changes

Relative and Revised "truth" are direct assaults on the Word of God

and the life...singular and exclusive, not consensus and inclusive
no compromise, no "Coexist"

The Source of Life

John 1:4

In him was life; and the life was the light of men

Eternal life

John 5:24

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life

The Life is...a Person – Jesus Christ

No man comes to the Father but by Me:

There is absolutely no other

- Way
- Truth
- Life

that leads to the Father in Heaven

Not good works (Gal 1:6-9...false gospel of Islam, LDS, JW, RCC, etc)

Not self-righteousness

Not our merit

Not any amount of money or anything of the earth

His Way, His Truth, and His Life...or no way, no truth, and no life

Prov 10:17 He *is in* the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth

Prov 21:16 The man that wandereth out of the way of understanding shall remain in the congregation of the dead

Prov 15:24 The way of life *is* above to the wise, that he may depart from hell beneath.

Any man who attempts to broaden the way to the Father is a false prophet/teacher

Matt 7:13-15 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves

The only possible and only acceptable access for mankind into the presence of the Father is Jesus Christ

1 Tim 2:5

Heb 8:6

Heb 12:24

Job 19:25

Sinners reject this truth as “narrow-minded

There is only one correct answer in Math; Math is not relative

Is Math narrow and restricting or has Math been liberating?

Math, computed with slide rulers,

- mapped the way to the moon (and back) by Apollo 11
50 years ago yesterday
- brought the astronauts of Apollo 13 home

Access to heaven is

- as narrow as Jesus
- as wide as Jesus (John 3:3-7, 13-21...whosoever will believe)

1 Cor 2:2

v7 known...know...see:

To know Jesus is to know the Father

John 10:30

To see/discern Jesus is to see/discern the Father

John 1:18

v8 shew us the Father:

Philip chimes in by expressing the desire of mankind – to see God

v9 not known Me...seen the Father:

“I’ve been with you 24/7 for over 2 years, yet you do not know Me, Philip?
If you see/discern Me, you see the Father.”

Jesus Christ is the faithful and true Witness of God to man

Jer 42:5

Rev 3:14

But the eyes of the disciples are not yet fully opened to see Jesus for

Who He is – 100% Man and 100% God

v10-11 Believe:

Harkening back to v1 – Believe

We see/discern the Father in Jesus because Jesus is in (one with) the Father and
the Father is in (one with) Jesus

Jesus came to do the will of the Father

John 4:34 *My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work*

Jesus came to speak the Father's words

Deut 18:18-19 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. And it shall come to pass, whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.

John 7:16 *My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.*

Heb 1:1-3 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high

Jesus came to do the Father's works

John 5:19 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise*

Believe His words and His works
Both are evidence of His Deity

v12 shall he do also and greater works than these:
 Thus saith the Lord

Acts 1:1-3 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

The words and work of Jesus continue to this day in the words and the works of
His disciples (not all “Christians” are disciples)
To this day the disciples of Jesus speak His words and do His works...
even greater than did He

Greater in number

- many voices vs One
- many workers vs One
- many places vs one

How?

By the power of God from on High, the indwelling and empowering
Holy Spirit
Acts 1:8

Note: Jesus will have much to say about the Holy Spirit in these,
His Last Words

Because I go to the Father: A direct statement
Jesus is going to His Father in heaven

- v2-3
- the answer to Peter’s questions in John 13:36-37
- the joy set before Him (Heb 12:2)

Application

1. Are you

- troubled
- confused
- doubtful
- discouraged
- fearful

Believe in God, believe in Jesus Christ His Son

Find peace in Who...know and trust Who
Leave the How, When, Where, What, and Why to Him

2. What does God our Maker want from us?

To Believe Him, to know Him, to trust Him

John 20:31

And it is for our good!!!

Col 3:1-4

3. We see the Father in Jesus, the world sees Jesus in us

The world sees Jesus in we who do believe because Jesus is in (one with) us and we are in (one with) Jesus

We lay down our will to do Jesus' will

We speak Jesus' words

We do Jesus' work

Col 1:26-27
