

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Series Title:



“The Promise of Eternal Comfort”

The Gospel According to John Ch 14:1-3

May 3rd, 2009

Intro: Swine Flu... (Picture) We are always subject to trouble... stuff that happens that causes an uneasiness within us... The other day my wife and I were walking around the Avenue in Viera and I received a text on my phone from Florida Today saying that there was a confirmed case of the swine flu in Orlando... so we started thinking “oh boy... it’s in our back yard now” ... And then less than 10 minutes later I receive another text from Florida Today saying that “Officials back off confirmation of swine flu case in Orlando” ...

If you are a Christian tonight, repeat after me: “When I die... I am going to Heaven... and when I get there... I will see Jesus... face to face...”

Opening Statement/Main Point: Jesus’ desire is that our hearts never be troubled, but that we trust Him with everything, especially the future.

Don’t get comfortable here... this life is a short temporary vapor...

John 14:1 “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.”

1. Jesus never fails

There was an old song we used to sing called “Jesus Never Fails” ... and these are some of the lyrics that are just so good...

So many souls have tested Him throughout the course of time.

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*So many still reach out to Him with broken hearts and minds.
And every one of them will say,
Without exception that they find...
Jesus never fails...*

*Even in the days of old, He brought His people through.
And then He came to show His love and died for me and you.
Then He rose again to prove,
That every story has been true...
Jesus never fails...*

*Jesus never fails. Jesus never fails.
You might as well get thee behind me, Satan
You cannot prevail, because Jesus never fails.*

Now if Jesus never fails... then why does my heart get troubled at times...? Does your heart ever get troubled...?

Now there is a difference from when our hearts gets scared and when our hearts are troubled... my heart is scared when I go to Palm Bay Wal-Mart after 9:00p.m.

My heart is troubled when I let things that happen in this world affect my heart negatively...

Q. What causes our hearts to be troubled? (Again, this week we had a discussion on our blog about it)

- People (Family, friends, co-workers)
- Situations in life (Finances, our personal future, our jobs)

It is against God's nature to fail... He can't fail; He is the only One that has never failed... Now if He lives in us by His Spirit, then why do we stress and worry about things in this life...?

Most of the time it's because we "**LET**" things trouble us...

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Notice that Jesus said, “Do not **LET** your hearts be troubled.” Sometimes we “LET” our hearts/minds/actions/personality/character make-up... our entire life... be affected in a negative way by things that happen around us... To a measured degree, we have a choice as to what we will and will not “LET” affect us.

You do not have to live your life in a constant state of being troubled or being worried... its ungodly... It's against the promises of God...

Tonight, Jesus is our peace and He is our sufficiency:

Ephesians 2:13-14 “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility...”

Philippians 4:6-7 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Isaiah 9:6-7 “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.”

(Sufficiency) 2 Corinthians 9:8 “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

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Ex: Teaching/Preaching can be so personally vulnerable... If I chose, I could be affected greatly by the things people say... but my hope for our time together is that it would be pleasing to God and purposeful for you.

I have prayed and will continue to pray that I will be a Pastor who will teach the Word of God for the spiritual growth of the listener and not for the pride and ego of self or others.

I'm not to be troubled about this sermon... its God's Word... and He promises that His Word will not return void, but will accomplish the purpose for which He sent it... (Isaiah 55:11)

- Trust Jesus with everything in life:

- a. Believe (In God)
- b. Adhere (To His Word)
- c. Rely (On His Faithfulness)

(Sharalyn and I believing, adhering, and relying on God while in the Air Force, not knowing how, when, what God was going to do)

John 14:2 "In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you."

2. Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people

The Scriptures speak so much about how we are to live godly lives, in anticipation of the Lords return. The only way to be prepared is by living according to the Word of God.

I was once praying with an individual who was struggling with pornography... and after we prayed, he was talking about living his life in light of the second coming and he mentioned about how he wouldn't want to be in the middle of looking at porn when Jesus comes back... and I thought, "something is not right about that thought" ...

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Right now, in this moment, we ought to be growing closer to the person of Jesus as we walk with Him... and then when He returns, no matter what time of the day it is, we will be prepared to meet Him in the air...

We don't want to live "holy moments", we want to live "holy lives".

We prepare for heaven by building our lives on the Word of God... The Word of God cleanses us from sin... **Ephesians 5:26** "...to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word..."

You and I, as we are drawn by the Spirit of God, should be growing and maturing in our walk with Christ. We should never be stagnant in our spiritual growth.

"In my Father's house are many rooms". I remember growing up, we often heard that this meant that there were these huge mansions in heaven waiting for each of us when we die... yet the more we read the Bible, that whole idea just doesn't make sense...

(Turn to) 2 Corinthians 5:1-10 "Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ²Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

⁶Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷We live by faith, not by sight. ⁸We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So we make it our

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goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

So... **“In my Father’s house are many rooms”**. The Father’s house is heaven... This simply means that in heaven... there is plenty of room for everyone... the New Living Translation of the bible actually says; **John 14:2 (NLT) “There is more than enough room in my Father’s home.”**

In a few weeks, Sunday, May 31st, the Haiti mission’s team will head down to Miami International Airport to catch our flight to Haiti which is scheduled for the following morning on Monday. And we have reserved 4 hotel rooms for the 12 of us at a Days Inn hotel just outside the Airport area... Now, when we get to the hotel and I walk up to the counter and say, “Here we are... here is our reservation number... may we have the keys to our rooms please?” And the clerk looks at me and says... “Ah, sorry, we’re booked, there’s no room left”... what are we going to do? I guess we’ll have to sleep outside or something?...”

No, see, that won’t happen in Heaven... we are told from the Scriptures that there are multitudes of people in heaven of which no man can number... (Rev 7:9) Would you imagine just for a moment how many people there are that have gone to heaven since the beginning of time? Wow!

John 14:3 “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

3. Jesus is coming back again

Jesus’ death on the Cross is a finished and complete work that has made it possible for us to go to Heaven to be with Him... He has gone ahead and prepared/made the way for us to enter into God’s eternal Presence...

What does God want us to know, to feel, and to do?

Hebrews 6:19-20 “We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.”

John 12:26 “Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.”

(KJV) “Where I am, there you will also be.” We often wonder... What will heaven be like? Here is a wonderful truth in the simplest way... Jesus will be in Heaven...

Right now, we are walking with Him and the Bible tells us that we are in Him and He is in us... (John 15:4) but when we get to heaven, we will see Him face to face... We will see His throne; we will see all that the Lord has made...

(Turn to) Isaiah 66:1-2 “This is what the LORD says: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. Where is the house you will build for me? Where will my resting place be? ² Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the LORD. “This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word.”

As mentioned earlier, God has given us His Word to cleanse us...

Ephesians 5:26 “...to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word...”

Paul said to “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly...” (Col 3:16)

So how does a man or woman begin a relationship with God and continue growing closer to Him? With a broken and contrite spirit, humble yourself to the Word of God... Obey the Word, enjoy the Word, “eat” the Word and walk in the Word...

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Closing: I spoke at a graduation this past Friday night and I'll share with you one of the points I shared with those graduates...

Life can be crazy at times... sometimes it feels as though we are constantly swimming up-stream...

Tonight, walk with the Lord in the love and power of the Holy Spirit...

Take all the pressures of this life and place them on Him tonight...

We have an eternal promise... Jesus is not a liar... He says "Trust me with everything, I've made a place for you in heaven, don't be troubled about what's happening down there, I am coming to get you that you may be here with me..."

Altar Call/Pray: