

THE SIXTH "I AM" — I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE

John 14:1-6

Introduction:

1. A portion of the last discourse Jesus delivered to His apostles before His crucifixion. Think of such an occasion!
2. Jesus had already told of Judas' evil intentions, and predicted Peter's defection, and His own death. (John 13:21-26.)
 - a. They were distressed over His death. John 16:6, 22.
 - b. They were to be left without wealth, friends, honors.
 - c. Matt. 26:31.
3. The disciples would need encouragement and enlightenment — they would need their hope strengthened.
4. Jesus, too, was facing the great crisis, but instead of eliciting sympathy, He was comforting others!

Discussion:

I. LET NOT YOUR HEAR! BE TROUBLED.

- A. Their faith would help to avoid being troubled, v.l.
 1. They did believe in God, and in Christ, John 17:7, 8. Hence, the meaning is, "Since you believe . . . don't be troubled." Psa. 46:1.
 2. Faith minimizes our troubles and worries now. Rom. 8:28; Matt. 6:33; Phil. 4:6-8; 1 Pet. 5:7.
- B. The Father's provisions and promises would relieve their anxiety.

1. "In my Father's house are many mansions" —literally, "In my Father's heaven are many abiding-places."
 - a. The Father's house.
 - b. Many mansions — spacious, roomy.
2. The belief that there is a heaven increases one's hope and helps him to bear his troubles.
 - a. Rev. 22:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:1.
 - b. Heaven is spoken of as a 'country' (Heb. 11:16); a 'city' (Heb. 11:10) a kingdom (2 Pet. 1:11); an inheritance (I Per, 1:3, 4). Here it is called a 'house.'
 - c. This should increase hope. Rom. 8:24, 25; Col. 1:5, 23; Tit, 1:2; Heb. 6:18, 19.

C. Christ's truthfulness relieved their worries, v. 2.

1. He had always been honest and "above-board" with them. He told them of hardships to be faced when they became His disciples.
2. He has always been truthful with us — has never let us down.
3. We should always see honest with others.

II. I GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU. v. 2.

- A. His going necessitated His death.
1. This shows His love for mankind. Rom. 5:8; John 3:16; Eph. 5:25; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; Gal. 1:4.
 2. The purpose of His "going" — for YOU.

B. To prepare.

1. He prepared a place -- we prepare ourselves.

2. God has always prepared a place for his people Eden, Gen. 2:8; Canaan, Deut. 6:10, 11; the church.
3. Whatever the preparation needed — Jesus will do it.
4. What will it be like? Rev. 7:15-17; 21:3, 4, 7, 8, 27; 22:1-5.

C. A PLACE — a real place, not some mystical "state."

1. Not the earth ---it will have been destroyed. 2 Pet. 3:8-10.
2. What kind of place? A large place, a prepared place; a place when: Christ is!

III. I WILL COME AGAIN

A, This was the abiding hope of on first century Christians. Tit. 2:13; 1 Thess. 4:13-18.

1. They look for Him. Acts 1: 11; 3:21; Phi. 3:20, 21.
2. They knew He was coming, but didn't know when. Matt, 24:36.
- 3 This meant more to them than a mere religious discussion!

B. It should be equally as exciting to us.

1. He will come for us not send for us.
- 2 He will be with Him, forever! v. 3.
3. With that hope made real in our thinking, it will affect our entire attitude toward worldly things. Col. 3:1.

C. The apostles, as voiced by Thomas, still did not fully comprehend, v. 4, 5. So Jesus explained:

IV. I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. v. 6.

A. The Way.

1. He is the "new and living' way" of Heb. 10:20.
 - a. The figure of "the way into the holiest" is introduced in Heb. 9, where the writer discussed the law being a shadow of good things to come. As the priests took the blood of animals into the holiest for the purifying of the flesh, so Christ took His own blood into heaven and offered it for the remission of our sins.
 - b. Hence, one can now enter into the holiest (heaven) by the way provided by Him... Heb. 10:19, 20.
2. This was prophesied. Isa... 35:8-10.
 - a. A highway — for all. Rev. 22:17.
 - b. A way of holiness — one must first be forgiven before he travels it. Acts 2:38 with Gal. 3.27, (The baptism which brings remission of sins puts one into Christ, the Way.)
 - c. A plain and simple way — "shall not err therein."
3. The WAY is our only access to God. Rom. 5: 1, 2; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; Eph. 2:16-18.
4. It is also God's way to man. John 6:38; John 17:8.
5. It is a way to light. John 8:12; 1 John 1:5. Note: Prov. 4:19.
6. One should travel the way. 1 Pet. 2:20, 21.

B. The TRUTH,

1. The truth makes free. John 8:32.

2. All truth comes FROM Him — He is the source of truth.
John 1: I 7.

C. The LIFE.

1. He is the source of all life. John 1:4; John 11; 25.

a. Physical life. Gen. 1:26.

b. Spiritual life. Eph. 2:1; John 6:68; John 3:16, 17.

c. Resurrection life. John 5:28, 29; John 11:43, 44.

2. He brings abundant life. John 10:10.

D. "No man cometh unto the Father but by me."

1. Cannot come by Judaism. Gal. 1:13-16; 5:4.

2. Cannot come by the doctrines and commandments of men. Matt.
15:8, 9-

3. Cannot come by morality alone. Acts 10:1-3; 11:14.

4. Cannot come by faith only. Jas. 2:24, 26; Heb. 5:8, 9; 2 Thess.
1:6-10.

5. Must come by Christ. John 10:9.

You want to go to heaven, you know the way.

Conclusion: COME.