

Gospel Reflections:
JOHN 14

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JOHN 14:1-6 – JESUS FORETELLS HIS COMING FOR THE ELECT

¹ Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in GOD, believe also in Me.

² In my Father's House are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

⁴ And whither I go ye know, and The Way ye know.

⁵ Thomas saith unto Him, Lord, we know not whither Thou goest; and how can we know The Way?

⁶ JESUS saith unto Him, I am The Way, The Truth, and The Life: no man cometh unto The Father, but by Me.

Different Christian theologies place the cooperation at different places and to different degrees. CHRIST redeems us by His Blood as His saints. He is all knowing, all powerful, all present, all sovereign. Yet He respects our free will which He gives us. Yet He is forever guiding us and, if we are His, keeping us at The Cross. Therefore JESUS answers, "I AM The Way, The Truth and The Life. No man comes to The Father but by The Son!" Thou, O CHRIST, are The Eternal One Incarnate, of Whom we The Church confess with Israel as in DEUTERONOMY 6:4, "Hear, O Israel, The LORD our GOD is one LORD!"

We cry out, "Father in Heaven, where are You? Rescue me!" The Son answers, "I AM. I am here with you, around you and within you. I will carry you if you can not walk. I will take your hand if you can stand. I will lead you if you can follow. I am here. Do not fear, for I have overcome for you!" The Master calls us, as in MATTHEW 11:28-30, to hear His voice, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light!"

JOHN 14:7-15 – JESUS AND THE FATHER ARE ONE

⁷ If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him.

⁸ Philip saith unto Him, Lord, shew us The Father, and it sufficeth us.

⁹ JESUS saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known Me, Philip? He that hath seen Me hath seen The Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us The Father?

¹⁰ Believest Thou not that I am in The Father, and The Father in Me? The Words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but The Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works.

¹¹ Believe Me that I am in The Father, and The Father in Me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

¹² Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father.

¹³ And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that The Father may be glorified in The Son.

¹⁴ If ye shall ask any thing in My Name, I will do it.

¹⁵ If ye love Me, keep My Commandments.

“Lord,” the Apostles asked CHRIST, “Show us The Father!” We also ask the same question, “Lord, show us The Father! For how can we find The Way to forgiveness of our sins, Your blessings and eternal life if You do not guide and rescue us?” Indeed, we can not save ourselves, but only GOD is able, and yet we must cooperate with His Grace. Our salvation rests only in GOD The Son. This, because The Father and The Son are one.

Again we find the open revelation that JESUS The Messiah is not merely a good moral Man, thou He is that. He is not just a Great Teacher of GOD’s Law, though He is that. He is not simply a Divinely inspired and Spirit filled ethicist, though He is that also. He is fully Man but without sin, and is fully GOD. He could not be any less and be our Saviour at the Cross! He is The Holy One of Israel Who has taken upon Himself human flesh, come to save His people and redeem the world! Because JESUS is The CHRIST, and because He was obedient unto The Cross, are we ourselves now the adopted children of The Almighty in Him! This fulfills The Words of the prophet in ISAIAH 53:11, “He shall see of the travail of His soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by His knowledge shall My Righteous Servant justify many; for He shall bear their iniquities!”

And here also we see a purpose of the miracles which JESUS performed during His earthly ministry: a testimony of His Divinity as The Messiah. “You can not believe My Words? You do not see in My Person that I am He? Then believe on Me because of the miraculous works which I do before you, and be saved!” What did the man healed of his blindness by JESUS testify of to the religious authorities who interrogated him? He admonished them of JESUS in JOHN 9:33, “If This Man were not of GOD, he could do nothing!”

JOHN 14:16-26 – THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

¹⁶ And I will pray The Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever;

¹⁷ Even The Spirit of Truth; Whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

¹⁸ I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

¹⁹ Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me: because I live, ye shall live also.

²⁰ At that day ye shall know that I am in My Father, and ye in Me, and I in you.

²¹ He that hath My Commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me: and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love Him, and will manifest myself to Him.

²² Judas saith unto Him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that Thou wilt manifest Thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

²³ JESUS answered and said unto Him, If a man love Me, he will keep My Words: and My Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

²⁴ He that loveth Me not keepeth not My Sayings: and the word which ye hear is not Mine, but The Father's which sent Me.

²⁵ These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.

²⁶ But The Comforter, which is The Holy Ghost, whom The Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

CHRIST declares that, if we are in Him and are thus His, The HOLY SPIRIT will come to us. He will reside even within us! And in this way, The holy Presence of The King of the universe now not only dwells all about us, but also He makes us – we who are but body and soul – His dwelling place! So Saint Paul reminds us in I CORINTHIANS 3:16-17, “Know ye not that ye are The Temple of GOD, and that The Spirit of GOD dwelleth in you? If any man defile The Temple of GOD, him shall GOD destroy; for The Temple of GOD is holy, which *Temple* ye are!”

Now we may better see that, if we abide in JESUS, He will abide in us – as part of His Body The Church and within each of us individually – so that we are made clean from within. His Presence washes the inside of the cups of our souls. His Spirit remakes and remolds us into His Likeness as we are made in His Image. What did David cry out from amidst his sins in PSALM 51:1-2? He cried out, “...Have mercy upon me, O GOD, according to Thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me throughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!”

For only in this way can we, because of inward righteousness, give forth fruits of external righteousness in keeping The Law of GOD! Only in this way before The holy Creator of all can we be, as Moses is commanded by GOD to declare to His people in LEVITICUS 19:2, “Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, Ye shall be holy: for I The LORD your GOD *am holy*:

דָּבַר אֱלֹהִים כָּל־עַדְתַּת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאָמַרְתָּ אֲלֵהֶם קְדוֹשִׁים תִּהְיוּ
כִּי קְדוֹשׁ אֲנִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיכֶם:

DABER ‘ET-KAL-‘ADAT BENEY-YISRA’EL, VE’AMARTHA ‘ELEHEM,
QEDOSHIYM TIHEYU, KIY QADOSH ‘ANIY [ADONAY] ¹ ‘ELOHEYCHEM! ²

¹ It is the practice of faithful Jewish people to not pronounce The Name of The LORD - יהוה - “The Tetragrammaton,” out of reverence for Him, but rather in reading The Sacred Scriptures in The Hebrew to substitute - הַשֵּׁם - HASHEM, which means simply “The Name,” or - אֲדֹנָי - ‘ADONAY, which means “The Lord,” a title of JEHOVAH.

² In my transliteration of The Hebrew, I represent the letter א aleph = ‘ and the letter ע ayin = “

I offer this translation, “You [Moses,] are to speak to all the people [of] the sons of Israel, and you say in testimony towards them, holy and sanctified you all be now – and continue to always be – because holy and sanctified [am] I The LORD GOD of you all!” O Lord JESUS CHRIST, make us all clean from within by The HOLY SPIRIT, and thus we shall be clean from without!

JOHN 14:27-31 – THE BEQUEST OF PEACE

²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

²⁸ Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved Me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto The Father: for My Father is greater than I.

²⁹ And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.

³⁰ Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me.

³¹ But that the world may know that I love The Father; and as The Father gave Me commandment, even so I do. Arise, let us go hence.

Now The Lord goes on to fulfill The Purpose for which He came in His First Advent: towards The Cross. But just before doing so, note that He blesses us with The Divine Peace over our lives and souls. The Lord is at our side. His mighty judgement cometh in the clouds! Behold, o ye men, and tremble before The Judgement Seat of CHRIST! Therefore, as Saint Paul says in PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7, let us cast away the cares of the world, the flesh and the devil. Let us instead in our blessed Saviour, “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto GOD. And the peace of GOD, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through CHRIST JESUS!”
