In the Upper Room with Jesus

John 13:31--14:15

Introduction:

Jesus and His disciples – minus Judas – are still in the upper room where they had partaken of the Passover meal and the first communion. Jesus had washed their feet, identified His betrayer-Judas- and he (Judas) had departed. We are within a few hours of Jesus’ arrest.

I. A New Commandment – 13:31-35

A. Lord of Life – 13:31-33

1. His Praise – 13:31-32

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“So, when he had gone out, Jesus said, ﻿﻿“Now the Son of Man is glorified, and ﻿﻿God is glorified in Him. If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself, and ﻿﻿glorify Him immediately.”

The “he” refers to Judas – and Satan with him. When he went out, a lot of the tension went with him. The words “glorify, glorified” occur 5 times in these two verses.

a. Glory at the Present Time:

(1). Jesus (Son of Man) is glorified.

(2). The Father is glorified in The Son.

Apparently, Judas departure is the action which is referred to as glorifying both the Father and the Son. He is going to set in motion the steps that end at the Reigning of Jesus Christ:

* The betrayal
* The arrest
* The trial
* The conviction
* The crucifixion
* Burial
* Resurrection
* Ascension
* Return
* Reigning

Theologically, these are all wrapped up in one word – the Exaltation of Christ. (Phil. 2:9-11) This does not mean that Judas [and Satan] get credit for their part! No, they are just as guilty as those who drove the nails in His hands and the spear in His side.

In fact, this is also the seal of the doom for both of them. Judas will hang himself, die and go to Hades and eventually the lake of fire. Satan is sentenced to eternal death at the cross. He will be imprisoned for 1,000 years (the millennium). At the end of the Millennium, that sentence carried out and he will be cast into the Lake of Fire where the beast and False Prophet have already been for 1000 years.

b. Glory at a Future Time:

“If God is glorified in Him, God will also glorify Him in Himself,” (32a)

The “if” clause (first class condition) should be translated: “If God is glorified in Him – [and He is] or “Since God is glorified in Him,” God, the Father, will glorify the Son in Himself i.e. the Father.

Recap: The Father is glorified by the Son in Himself. The Son is glorified by the Father in Himself

2. His Purpose – 13:33

“Little children, I shall be with you a ﻿﻿little while longer. You will seek Me; ﻿﻿and as I said to the Jews, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come,’ so now I say [the same] to you.”

He calls them, “Little children” - “τεκνία”. They are men, but they are Jesus’ “little children”. They have just started the Christian life. They believed on Him. He gave them eternal life. They learned by what He said and what he did. Jesus prayed. They said, “Teach us to pray.” And He did. They are still His little children.

This is the only place Jesus uses this term, but John uses it, for those reading His first letter, 7 times. [Read the entire book; you’ll find them. Paul used it once in Gal. 4:19.]

Now, Jesus is going to leave them. They will seek Him, but they won’t find Him. Just as He told the Jews in 7:34; 8:21.

There is a huge difference between the two groups. He is leaving these Jews forever. On the other hand, He said to the disciples in 14:18 ﻿ ﻿﻿I will not leave you orphans; ﻿﻿I will come to you. Not true of the Christ rejecting Jews.

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Now, He has loved them. They did not ask, but He is giving them a new command because, He is not only the Lord of Life; He is the Lord of love.

B. Lord of Love – 13:34-35

1. The Impetus – 13:34

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“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”

This command is not like the commands of the Law. There are no penalties specified if you don’t love; but there is a loss,

* to the Savior Who gave the command;
* to the one who does not love,
* to the one who is not loved,
* to the church where the love is not expressed, and finally
* to the world that is longing to see and experience Christian love in a world where love is so lacking, especially the love of Christ on the Cross.

If they don’t learn it from us – then from whom will they learn?

2. The Impression – 13:35

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“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The world is watching. Jesus said so! What is the impression they are taking away from Twin Lakes Baptist Church.

II. A New Coming – 13:36 - -14:6

A. Human Heart Revealed – 13:36-38

1. Peter’s Confusion – 13:36-37a

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“Simon Peter said to Him, “Lord, where are You going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I ﻿﻿am going you cannot follow Me now, but ﻿﻿you shall follow Me afterward.”

Peter’s question was, “Where are you going?” Jesus answered the question behind the question, “Can I go? No, you cannot go now, but you shall follow Me later.

Questions: Follow Him where? To heaven? No, I don’t think so. To the cross? Probably. Peter knew that Jesus was going to Jerusalem to die. See the next line.

Jesus’ answer may well have been “going to the cross”. Peter did die on a cross and tradition says that he said that he was not worthy to die as Jesus did so they crucified him upside down.

﻿“Peter said to Him, “Lord, why can I not follow You now?

“To the cross” is implied. The next verse shows that. I will ﻿﻿lay down my life for Your sake. Thomas expressed the same determination. (John 11:16)

2. Peter’s Conceit – 13:37b-38

“I will ﻿﻿lay down my life for Your sake.” Jesus answered him, “Will you lay down your life for My sake? Most assuredly, I say to you, the rooster shall not ﻿﻿crow till you have denied Me three times.

You will die for Me? You can’t even live for Me!”

It is now evening and before the rooster crows, [8 or 9 hours from now] you will deny Me three times. In John 18:17, 25, 26, we learn of the three denials. In Mark 14:71 we learn that Peter cursed and swore. In Luke 22:61we learn that, after the third denial, Jesus turned and looked at Peter and he went out and wept bitterly.

B. Heavenly House Revealed – 14:1-3

1. A Rest – 14:1

“Let ﻿﻿not your heart be troubled;”

Jesus heart was troubled (ταράσσω)

* 11:33- at the raising of Lazarus.
* 13:21- at the announcement of Judas’ betrayal.

Note: Each believer have the responsibility for the condition of his heart. How do we do that? Faith! (Prov. 3:5-6)

The remedy for a “troubled” heart is faith- belief.

“believe in God, believe also in Me.” Jesus tells us how - right here:

Question: Is this 2 statements or 2 commands or one of each? It doesn’t make a lot of difference. I come down on the side of “2 commands. “Believe in God; believe also in Me”

2. A Residence – 14:2

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﻿“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.”

The mansions are “abiding places/dwellings” The “if clause” is second class – assumed false.

3. A Re-assurance – 14:3

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

“if I go and prepare a place for you,” - This “if clause” is a future condition – Could be translated, “If I go away…” Because He did go away, the conclusion is true - He is coming again to receive us to Himself so that we may be with Him.

C. Highway Home Revealed – 14:4-6

1. A. Declaration – 14:4

“And where I go you know, and the way you know.”

The place to which He goes is obviously heaven. (not to Thomas) He has told them the way to heaven, “Believe on Me and you have eternal life.”

2. An Evaluation – 14:5

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﻿﻿“Thomas said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?”

Thomas is confused. The others are as well. See Peter’s question in 13:36. They will remain confused until after the Resurrection and ascension.

3. An Assertion – 14:6

a. How can I be Saved? – 14:6a

“I am ﻿﻿the way’’ -- Without Me there is no going.

He does not say, “I am a way” He is the only way to God. And since there is only one God, Jehovah God, everyone who does not believe in Jesus is lost for eternity.

b. How can I be Sure?

“I am the truth” -- Without Me there is no Knowing – 14:6b

Anything that disagrees with what Jehovah God says through His Son, Jesus, or in His inerrant Scriptures is not the truth.

c. How can I be Satisfied – 14:6c

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“I am the life.” -- Without Me there is no Growing

Jesus gives life, eternal and temporal; physical and spiritual. Without that life there is no growing in any life, of any kind.

“Jesus is the WAY the TRUTH and the LIFE. No one can come to the Father for anything except through Him.”

III. A New Commission - 14:7-15

A. The Appeal – 14:7-8

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﻿﻿“If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.”

Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.”

B. The Answer – 14:9-11

1. The Truth Declared – 14:9

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“Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? ﻿﻿He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

2. The Truth Defended – 14:10-11

a. His Words – 14:10

“Do you not believe that ﻿﻿I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you ﻿﻿I do not speak on My own *authority;* but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.”

b. His Works – 14:11

“Believe Me that I *am* in the Father and the Father in Me, ﻿﻿or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.”

C. The Amplification – 14:12-15

1. The Conditions of the Christian Life – 14:12-14

a. Effective Practice – 14:12

﻿﻿﻿“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

b. Effective Prayer – 14:13-14

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﻿﻿“And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be ﻿﻿glorified in the Son. ﻿If you ﻿﻿ask anything in My name, I will do *it.*”

(See 1 John 5:14)Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that ﻿﻿if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

2. The Condition of Christian Love – 14:15

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“If you love Me, ﻿﻿keep My commandments.”