

Do You Have Peace?

John 14.25-31

In these verses, Jesus repeats themes He has already spoken about to the disciples, and adds one grand promise: His parting gift to them is peace! As we embrace the truth of this promise, it opens a door to joy, strength, endurance, and devotion in our Christian lives.

Seven Themes Repeatedv26 – *the Helper, the Holy Spirit is coming* (14.16-17)v27 – *“Don’t let your hearts be troubled”* (14.1)v28 – *“I am going away”* (13.33, 36; 14.2)v28 – *“I will come back to you”* (14.3, 18; cf. 14.19, 23)v28 – *“If you loved Me...”* (14.7; cf. 14.15, 23)v29 – *“I tell you before it happens”* (13.19)v30 – *the ruler of this world* (Satan; 13.2, 27)Two Thorny Issues

- “The Father is greater than I”: *Is Jesus a lesser God?*

- “The ruler of this world is coming”: *Who’s in charge?*

One Majestic Promise

- “Peace I leave with you...not as the world gives...”

What kinds of “peace” does the world give?

What kind of peace does Jesus give?



1. The first section of John’s detailed account of the events and words of the night Jesus was betrayed reaches a climax in John 14.25-31. Take ten minutes (or so) to read chapters 13 and 14 out loud. As you read, what ‘emotional roller-coaster’ do you think the disciples were experiencing? What desires, fears, and hopes do you sense in the questions they ask Jesus? What messages is Jesus planting in their minds to sustain them in the turbulent times that lie just ahead?
2. On the front of this sheet is a list of seven themes that Jesus spoke of earlier, and now repeats. Read the earlier references, then what He says here. What fuller understanding do we gain about the work of the Spirit? About why our hearts shouldn’t be troubled? About Jesus going away and coming again? About how knowing or loving Jesus impacts our lives? About what Satan can, and cannot, do?
3. What was the peace that Jesus was leaving with His disciples as He went away? How is the peace we have from Jesus different from the peace the world gives?
4. In v28, Jesus says that “the Father is greater than I.” We know that Jesus is God (John 1.1-3; 8.58; etc.), that He and the Father are one (John 10.30), and He told the disciples that if they have seen Him, they’ve seen the Father (12.45; 14.7-11). In what way is the Father greater than Jesus? The workings of the Trinity are inscrutable for us, but to get a ‘big picture’ of how Jesus articulated His relationship with the Father *while He was on earth*, read John 4.34; 5.16-23, 26-27, 30, 43a; 6.27, 57; 8.16, 26, 28-29, 42, 54-55; 9.4; 10.17, 25, 29, 32, 36-38; 11.41-42; 12.26-28, 49-50; 14.10, 24b, 31b.
5. In John 13.2 and 27, we have an illustration of how Satan plants the idea of sin in our minds, and then brings it to fruition. We know that he constantly tries to get us to sin (2 Cor. 4.4; Eph. 6.11-12; Js. 1.14-15; 1 Pet. 5.8-9; 1 Jn. 5.19; Rev. 12.10). In contrast, Jesus says that Satan has no power over Him (14.30)! When was this illustrated in His life? (See Matt. 4.1-11) How is this reflected – even in the death of Jesus on the cross (see John 10.17-18)?