

Sunday, May 26, 2019

John 14:23-29

Theme: "THE POINT OF DEPARTURE-THE GIFT OF PEACE"

We are living in challenging times...

We are living in anxious times...

We are living in painful times...

We are living in fearful times...

Our most obvious choice then, should be the courage to challenge fear...

But instead, others will do all they can to influence our judgement by justifying the obvious wrong...

The most common fear in our society today is not what you think it is...

\*It is not the fear of war...

\*It is not the fear of death...

\*It is not the fear of losing a job...

\*It is not the fear of loneliness...

\*It is the fear of public speaking...

\*To counter fear, believers must have faith in the Lord...

\*I am not talking about faith as describe in Hebrews chapter one...

\*I am talking about faith that changes lives...

\*I am talking about faith that provides spiritual guidance and assurance...

\*I am talking about experiential faith...

Some you you here today may be seeking a response from the Lord this morning...

Take a clue from this text...

Jesus' response to Judas is meant to clarify a discrepancy between what He has just promised and other early Christian expectations (Mark 13 & 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17...)

The event/action of which Jesus speaks in this text is His spiritual presence based upon the expression of love for Him...

Not only is this an expression of love for Jesus, it is also an expression through keeping His commandment...

(23)

The divine indwelling (that which is permanently present in our souls and minds) is conditional on love, and obedience to Jesus' words...

It is when we have this indwelling of the Holy Spirit that we can have peace...

(24)

\*On the other hand, those who do not demonstrate expressions of love for Jesus...

\*Those who do not keep the commandment...

\*Those who exist in name only...

\*Those who ignore the Word of God...

\*Those persons will receive their just reward...

\*Why! Because they do not have that inner peace...

(25)

Jesus now seems on the verge of taking leave of His disciples...

(26)

\*And so He repeats His promise of the Holy Spirit...

\*The Holy Spirit is a person, not a FORCE...

\*So Jesus elaborates on the functions of the Holy Spirit, which fulfill expectations raised (John 7:39..)

(John 7:39)

But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified...

\*As a Helper, the Holy Spirit would enable the epistles to remember all the words and works and teachings of Jesus...

(27)

In departing, Jesus bestows upon His disciples a blessing, distinguishing His peace from the world's...

(28)

\*He reiterates what He has said already and declares His own subordination to the Father...

\*My Father is greater than I, meaning, the Father is greater in authority, not being...

\*(1 Corinthians 15:27)

"He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted.."

\*(1 Corinthians 15:28)

"Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all..."

Friends, Jesus has promised that we can do greater things on the conditions that we believe in Him...

\*Jesus is watching over us...

\*Problems will come...

\*We will hunger and thirst...

\*But we must live in confidence and joy knowing that the Lord is in control...

Amen!