

God Promises That He's Prepared a Place For Us

Opener: When it comes to heaven, what do you look forward to the most?

Scripture: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. ²My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. ⁴You know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.” John 14:1-7

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. 2 Corinthians 5:1

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. John 17:24

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” Acts 4:12

Discussion Questions

1. Jesus began by saying, “Do not let your hearts be troubled.” Earlier He had told them what was coming: He would be betrayed (13:21); He would only be with them a little longer and they wouldn’t be able to find Him (13:33); and Peter would disown Him (13:36-38). How would you describe the fears they must have had? Do we have the same type of fears today? John 14:1
2. Then Jesus gave them the prescription for troubled hearts: “You believe in God; believe also in me.” How would believing in Him have helped the disciples through what was about to happen? How has trusting in Jesus has made a difference in dealing with your own fears? John 14:1
3. Jesus then described heaven—a place with many rooms that He would prepare for them. Heaven is something we all hope for, long for, and really don’t understand. What comes to mind when you think about heaven? What questions do you have about it? Why would Jesus bring up heaven when He was addressing their fears? John 14:2-3; 2 Corinthians 5:1
4. When Jesus said that He was going to prepare a place for them, how would He do that? John 14:2
5. John 17 includes an extraordinary prayer that Jesus prayed for all believers. How does John 17:24 describe why Jesus was willing to die on the cross for us?
6. Jesus didn’t say He was blazing a trail and commanding others to take it. Rather, He said that He Himself is the way. What does that say to those who believe there are multiple ways to get to heaven and to have a relationship with God? John 14:6-7; Acts 4:12
7. Is there a difference between the heaven described in John 14 and the kingdom of heaven? How would you explain how the kingdom of heaven is actually present here on earth now?

Wrap Up: In the OT the Lord’s House was the Temple. It contained many chambers and courts, but only one “room” for a dwelling—the Most Holy Place for the Lord’s Presence. The Lord God did dwell there among His people, but there had to be separation to protect them from His Holy Presence. Then Jesus fulfilled and expanded everything! He fulfilled the Temple’s purpose—God now dwells among the people without separation—He really is Immanuel, God with us, and we will be with Him forever in the rooms He’s prepared. So know Jesus. Follow Jesus. Obey Jesus. Love Jesus. Because Jesus is THE way.