

“I GO UNTO THE FATHER”

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INTRODUCTION

A. TEXT: “*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 the father.*” v. 12. (also v. 28).

B. SETTING:

1. Jesus’ farewell discourse, the night of His betrayal.
2. He was preparing them for His death.
3. He knew what was about to happen, and that they would be scattered abroad.
4. He wanted them to know that His death was not the **end** but the **beginning**.

C. HIS BEING TAKEN FROM THEM....HIS GOING....

1. Was not to be seen as their loss.
 2. Rather it was their gain.
 3. In this lesson we want to consider some of the things that are ours as a result of Jesus “Going Unto The Father”.
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HIS GOING - TEACHES US

A. THE EXPLANATION OF LIFE.

1. These words tell us that life is a journey (See Gen. 47:9).
 - a. A swift journey. A handbreadth; three score and ten (Psalms 39:5).
 - b. A continuous journey. “I am going” No stopping place. We can’t halt time and its ravages on the human frame.
 - c. An irrevocable Journey. Only once can it be made.
2. That this world is not our permanent abode. Here we are strangers and Pilgrims (I Pet. 2:1). Our citizenship is in heaven (Phil. 3:20).
3. That we have a sublime goal – The Father. Though away from home, the child is returning to his Father (John 14:1,2).

B. IT SUSTAINS LIFE. Amide the disappointments of life we need a sustaining element. Hope is that ELEMENT.

1. The hope of an abundant crop sustains the farmer.
2. The expectation of promotion encourages the student.
3. The hope of recovery is often the only thing that keeps the sick alive.

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4. The expectation of reaching the Father strengthened the Master for his hardships. (Heb. 12:2).
5. The hope of seeing the Father is the Christian's anchor (Heb. 6:19). It means to the soul just what the anchor means to the storm-tossed ship.
6. Hope is the Christian's only stay. It gives rest to his soul. Work for his character and a goal for his ambition.

C. IT COMPETES LIFE

1. No life is complete until it is closed in death, and goes to the Father.
2. At Jesus' death he said, "*It is finished*". As Paul was about to depart and be with the Lord, he said, "*I have finished my course.*"
3. For the Christian, a going to the Father finishes his life - completes it.
 - a. His temptations are done.
 - b. His earthly toil is no more (Rev. 14:13).
 - c. His pain, both of body and mind is no more (Rev. 21:4).
4. Going to the Father **explains, sustains, and completes** the Christian life.

DOES FOR US

A. WHAT DOES THIS (Jesus going to the Father) DO FOR US?

1. "*If ye shall ask anything in my name, that will I do.*" (v. 14).
 - a. Open to us the avenue of prayer.
 - b. Jesus' going to the Father makes this possible for us.
2. "*Yet a little while, and the world beholdeth me no more; but ye behold me; because I live, ye shall live also.*" (v. 19).
 - a. His resurrection is a promise to us.
 - b. It gives us the comfort of the words in I Thess. 4:13ff.
 - c. "*For if we have become united with him in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection;*" (Rom. 6:5).
3. "*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 fearful.*" (v. 27)

- B. "*But I would not have you ignorant, brethren, concerning them that fall asleep; that ye sorrow not, even as the rest, who have no hope. For it we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also that are fallen asleep in Jesus will God bring with him.....Wherefore comfort one another with these words.*" (I Thess. 4:13-14; 18).
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HE SENDS US

- A. *“And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth: (v. 16,17).*
1. He, the comforter shall be in you. v. 17.
 2. I will not leave you desolate. V. 18.
- B. *“But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.” v 26.*
1. This promise made to the Apostles.
 2. And through them, inspiration, reveals unto us all that we need to know.
 - a. *“Seeing that his divine power hath granted unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that called us by his own glory and virtue;” (II Pet. 1:3).*
 - b. *“Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness; that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.” (II Tim. 3;16,17).*
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CONCLUSION

“Let not your heart be troubled: believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I come again, and will receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go, ye know the way. Thomas saith unto him. Lord, we know not whither thou goest; how know we the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way and the truth, and the life; no one cometh unto the Father, but by me.” (John 14:1-6).
