

From Pastor's Desk...

I Go to Prepare a Place For You

"Trust the great Artist,
He who paints the sky and sea
With shadowed blue, who clothed the land
In grab of green, and in the spring
Sets all earth blossoming -
He guards your destiny"

Just a few hours before Jesus goes to the cross, he gives two commands and three promises this disciples:

Commands:

1. Do not let your heart be troubled.
2. Trust in God, trust also in me.

Promises:

1. I go to prepare a place for you.
2. I will come again and receive you to myself.
3. Where I am, there you may be also.

The time of their Master's departure was near. The disciples were anticipating Jesus to set them free from the Romans. They were preparing to rule and reign with Him in His kingdom. Listening to the news of Jesus' departure could cause them to be troubled. Jesus says to them: "Stop being troubled." The cure for heart's trouble is trust. Trust is confidence in the right object, God and His Son.

Another way to cure our heart trouble is to rest in His promises. He promises us heaven, an eternal dwelling place. The Father's home is not an unprepared place. Heaven is perfectly a prepared place. Some people think that Jesus is using His earthly skill of carpenter ship now to finish the construction work in heaven. No, He is saying that through the death, resurrection, and ascension the way to the dwelling place will be prepared for His disciples. God's plan for the mankind is a finished work through His Son.

Therefore, trust in Him. Put your hope and rest in Him until He comes again. Goodbye to all.

"Goodbyes
Are not forever.
Goodbyes
Are not the end.
They simply mean
I'll miss you,
Until we meet again."

God bless you.
Rev. K. M. Varughese
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The Promise of Heaven

Rinoj Mathew

We all have our own ideas about what heaven is like and what we will do when we get there. But, how can we be sure that we are truly going to heaven and what must we do to get into heaven? Jesus has promised us an eternal home in John 14:2. "For I have prepared a place for you". Also the Bible states that "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. No matter how difficult your life gets, Jesus has promised each one of us an eternity with Him.

God understands that we have a sinful nature and because of his grace we are saved. No one can boast that their good works are the reason they will go to heaven, but, only because of the mercy of God. So all you have to do is to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved. This being said, the path to heaven is not easy, it is a narrow path with many obstacles. It requires us to be different by living by faith, enduring trials and living a life that is separate from this world. Therefore, we need to prepare ourselves for heaven by constantly praying because we don't know when Jesus will come.

In conclusion, there will come a day when we will all enter the kingdom of heaven and there will be no more pain, no more tears, and no more death of this world. We will enter a new life, where we will worship our Lord and spend eternity with him.

A Believer's Promised Place

Daniel George Kuruvilla

As the time was approaching for Jesus to be arrested and crucified, He began comforting His disciples telling them not to be troubled in their hearts and to trust in God (John 14:1). Soon after His resurrection, Jesus was explaining to his disciples that he was going away from them to prepare a place they could follow. In the previous passage we read that Peter was troubled at Jesus' statement and tells Him he was ready to lay his life for Him. Little did they realize that the scriptures had to be fulfilled and you'd have to prepare yourselves as per the example that was set forth by Jesus Himself.

In John 14:2 Jesus gives His children a promise to look forward to. The promise of our home with Him. He said, "I am going there to prepare a place for you." The home that is so well described in Revelations 21. The place where God's Glory lights up the city and where the river flows with crystal clear water. The place where the streets are made of pure gold. The place where the tree of life grows whose leaves bring healing to the nations. The place where there will be no pain and sickness. The place where there will be no sin. The place where God's chosen ones will find rest. Above all the place where God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit lives. Isn't that worth living for?

The Kingdom of God belongs to the righteous and ones who obey every command of God. The place that Jesus has gone to prepare is for the ones who live by the word of God day and night without turning from it to the right or to the left. Jesus set a beautiful example on how to live your life in order to be able to enter this Glorious home. Are we who call ourselves believers living a life here on earth as Jesus commanded? Are we living to live in eternity in our permanent home with God, a place He is preparing for us?

May we as individuals and as a church, work together, building one another up with the Love of Jesus so that we may all meet Him in that wonderful place.