

20:20 Vision Ministries – Devotions by Roger Browning Week 41 (October 5-11, 2014)

Jesus has promised many benefits to those who choose to love Him enough to obey His commands. This week, we will look at a few of those **promises** from the 14th chapter of John.

Sunday, October 5 (read John 14:15-21)

If you love me, you will obey what I command. (John 14:15)

The passages of Scripture we will look at this week will be almost too wonderful to believe, but since they come from the mouth of our Lord, we can take them to heart and rejoice in His promises. Those who truly **love** Jesus are the only ones who can claim these promises. He knows our love, not by our words, but by our obedience to His commands (v. 15). The first promise in today's text is His commitment to send the Holy Spirit to comfort and guide all who love Him and follow His commands (v. 16-17). He tells His disciples that the Holy Spirit who is **among** them will abide **within** them following His death and resurrection (v. 17). Just as Jesus is one with the Father (John 10:30), He is also one with the Spirit. He says, "I will come to you" (v. 18b). Thank Him today for His Spirit abiding within your heart!

Monday, October 6 (reread John 14:15-21)

Because I live, you also will live. (John 14:19b)

Following the promise of the abiding Holy Spirit, Jesus assures **eternal life** to those who love Him (v. 19). He has promised to live within each true believer in the form of the Holy Spirit (v. 18); therefore, where we go, He always goes too. Think about that before you go to places that do not honor His presence. The world cannot see Him living in you (v. 19a), but they will see the results by the changed life that you live in their midst. With Jesus living inside the Christian, we actually become part of the Trinity (v. 20). Isn't it about time that we live like Jesus is in the Father, and we are in the Son, and He is in us? These wonderful promises are available only to those who truly love Him and obey His commands (v. 15, 21). The Father, who previously could not look upon sin, will love us because of our love for His Son living in us (v. 21). Are you missing out on many of His benefits?

Tuesday, October 7 (read John 14:22-24)

Jesus replied, "If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." (John 14:23)

For the past several weeks, we have been learning what it means to go beyond basic salvation to living the life worthy of His high calling. I want you to experience the joy of claiming His promises that are available only to those who truly **love** and **trust** Him. In today's text, the other disciple named Judas wants to know why **they** will see Him but the lost world will not (v. 22). For the third time, Jesus links our obedience with the joy of seeing Him (v. 15, 21, 23), not only in our everyday experiences, but also in eternity. On the other hand, those who refuse to obey His commands cannot honestly say they love Him, because the Father judges our love for Him by our willing obedience to His Son (v. 24). Can others observe your faith by your obedience to Jesus' commands? More promises are coming to those who answer "yes" to that question.

Wednesday, October 8 (read John 14:25-27)

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27)

Do you want to live in peace, free from the worries of this old world? Today's passage is for you! Those who want to obey the teachings of our Lord will experience the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Counselor (v. 25). The Spirit will teach you God's Word and His will (John 16:13) as He reminds you of the words of Jesus (v. 26). The result is the promise of a perfect peace from God that the world cannot give or take away (v. 27). Do not ask Jesus for only those things the world can give you; instead, ask Him for the strength to obey in such a manner that all of the promises of His Father are at your fingertips. Are you learning how much God wants to give to those He can trust? I pray that you will be the recipient of His best!

Thursday, October 9 (read John 14:28-31)

I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. (John 14:29)

I love to preach **prophecy** because the Bible is the only Book that accurately tells us beforehand what is going to happen in this world (v. 29). If we will just observe all the world events happening before our eyes, we will trust the amazing inerrancy of God's Word. Jesus tells His disciples of all ages to rejoice in the fact that He is with the Father, because that means the Holy Spirit is living in us (v. 28). The Father is greater than the Son in function only since the two of them are One (John 10:30). I like to say that God the Father **thought** out the plan of salvation while God the Son **bought** it and the Spirit **brought** it. Jesus concludes His teaching by reminding us of a beautiful truth: The prince of this world (Satan) has no hold on Him because He does exactly what the Father commands (v. 30). That means, when we are obedient, the devil has no hold on us either because, as He says, "I am in the Father, and you are in me, and I am in you" (v. 20b). Rejoice! You are a child of the King!

Friday, October 10 (read John 14:1-6)

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6)

Now that we have established the importance of **obedience** in claiming the promises of God, let's look at the wonderful promises found in the first 14 verses of this chapter. Jesus begins with some of the most beautiful assurances found anywhere in the Bible. For example, we have nothing to worry about because He will return for us at the proper time to bring us to Himself for eternity (1-3). What a promise! How can we be sure that we can claim this promise? You should know by now that Jesus is the **only way** to salvation (v. 6). Do not link His work to that of the many false teachers who founded religions that have no power to save. Our Lord was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, and willingly died on Calvary to give us the assurance of His wonderful gift of salvation. Anchor your faith in Him and His Word, and you can be assured that He will come for you either when your life down here is complete or in the rapture of the Church.

Saturday, October 11 (read John 14:7-14)

Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. (John 14:11)

I want to end this week with one of the greatest personal promises found in the Word of God. The scope of the ministry of His Church will be greater than the earthly ministry of Jesus, because we are so many and His Spirit guides us (v. 12). The spiritual and physical miracles done through the church are all the evidence we need of His reality (v. 11). God gives us verses 13-14 to encourage us in our spiritual growth. When our goal is to accomplish His will, we can ask for anything in His Name! I have nothing to withdraw from Heaven's bank other than that which is deposited by the life, death and resurrection of my Lord Jesus Christ. Go forth in victory, knowing that Jesus is "able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work with us" (Ephesians 3:20), and claim the promises of God!