The Book of JOHN

Chapter 14, PART 3: Verses 19-31

We continued with Jesus and the disciples in the upper room following their last Passover together. Jesus knows His followers are confused, frightened and completely unaware of what will happen shortly to their Master, and to them. Jesus prepares them, even though they do not fully understand. He has already told them of the coming of the Holy Spirit, their Comforter and Advocate. He continues now with a discussion about His soon departure, and how they will love Him and keep His commands in order to bring the good news of salvation to the world.

¹⁹"A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. ²⁰"At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

- "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more,..." Jesus is speaking of his leaving, His death, resurrection and return to the right hand of God as King of the Universe. While the "world" (the entire system that opposes God) cannot see Him, we CAN, spiritually, by the Holy Spirit who dwells within us.
- "...but you will see Me." Not only can we "see" Jesus because of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is also speaking to those men who would indeed see Him with their own physical eyes, only a few days after He died on a cross. He will appear alive to them, spending a little more time teaching them and preparing them for the future.
- "At that day you will know that I am in My Father,..." What day is Jesus speaking of? For these disciples it may have been that morning of the Jewish feast day of Firstfruits, when He appeared to them alive. What was impossible, someone coming back to life after a certain death, would convince them that He indeed was in the Father, that He is exactly what He has been telling them all along. He is the I AM. In another way, "that day" actually began at the Feast of Weeks (Shavuot) or what we call "Pentecost," 50 days later. On this day the promised Holy Spirit came to make His home in all believers, including those first disciples. THAT was the day they truly began to understand who Jesus is.
- We still live "in that day." The Holy Spirit continues to indwell believers, helping them understand all about Jesus. That is one of the primary roles of the "Comforter." The truth of Jesus is the ultimate comfort.

"...and you in Me, and I in you." "You in Me" refers to our salvation. We are "in" Jesus when we accept His free gift. In God's eyes, we are either "in Christ," or "out of Christ." This is the difference between being saved, and being lost. We are either in Him through faith, our out of Him still in sin. In Him we are complete and whole. This phrase is incredibly important, and is the foundation of our entire existence as believers. Jesus is IN US. He dwells in us by the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. WE DWELL, HAVE OUR ENTIRE BEING, IN HIM. Paul wrote "Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory." (Colossians 3:2-4) "For you died..." means that our old selves, the sinful self, has died, and now we are hidden in Yeshua. In this passage, the word "hidden" implies safekeeping and concealment, both a sort of invisibility and security. We are indeed IN Him. This simple phrase has amazing meaning for us, and one that is worth investigating a little more.

Paul the prolific writer of letters about Jesus has written volumes about this little phrase "In Christ." Literally it means "in the Messiah," "in the Anointed, promised One," or more personally, "in Jesus." What exactly does this mean? The letters of Paul are overflowing with the profound nature of these two little words. Take a look and be convinced AND CONVICTED.... (it is well worth the space to print them and see them in one place!)

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE IN CHRIST? "You in Me, and I in you..." Just a sampling...

1	Romans 3:24	"justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,"	redemption
2	Romans 6:11	" reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord."	Dead to sin, alive to God
3	Romans 6:23	"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."	Eternal life
4	Romans 8:1	"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit."	No condemnation
5	Romans 8:2	"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."	Freedom from the Law of sin and death
6	Romans 8:39	"nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is <u>in Christ</u> Jesus our Lord."	Love, inseparable from God
7	Romans 9:1	"I tell the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit,"	Truth
8	Romans 12:5	"so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."	Family, united community
9	Romans 15:17	"Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things which pertain to God."	The things of God
10	Romans 16:3	"Greet my fellow workers in Christ Jesus,"	Community
11	Romans 16:10	" approved in Christ"	God's approval
12	1 Corinthians 1:2	" to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all who in every place call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,"	Sanctification, separation from the world
13	1 Corinthians 1:30	"But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption"	Wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption
14	1 Corinthians 4:10	"We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ!"	Wisdom
15	1 Corinthians 4:17	"faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere"	Role models
16	1 Corinthians 15:8	"also those who have fallen asleep in Christ"	Security, hope
17	1 Corinthians 15:22	"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."	Life
18	2 Corinthians 1:21	"Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God,"	Established, secure, anointed in God
	2 Corinthians 2:14	"thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."	Triumph, victory
20	2 Corinthians 2:17	"For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ."	Ability to share with sincerity, speaking in God's sight

21	2 Corinthians 3:14	"For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ."	For Israel, removal of the "veil"
22	2 Corinthians 5:17	"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."	A new creation, everything new
	2 Corinthians 5:19	"that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation."	Reconciliation with God
24	2 Corinthians 11:3	"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is <u>in Christ.</u> "	Simplicity, uncomplicated lives
25	Galatians 2:4	" our liberty which we have in Christ Jesus,"	Liberty, freedom
26	Galatians 3:14	"that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."	For Gentiles, the blessings of Abraham, the Spirit of God
27	Galatians 3:26	"For you are all sons of God through faith <u>in</u> <u>Christ</u> Jesus."	Sons (and daughters) of God
28	Galatians 3:28	"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."	Oneness in Jesus
29	Ephesians 1:3	"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ"	Every spiritual blessing, in the heavenly places
30	Ephesians 1:10	"that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him."	Oneness in God
31	Ephesians 2:6	"raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,"	Resurrection, oneness in the heavenly places
32	Ephesians 2:7	"that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."	Riches of His grace and kindness
33	Ephesians 2:10	"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."	God's workmanship for good works
34	Ephesians 2:13	"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ."	Once far from God, now near to Him
35	Ephesians 3:6	"that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,"	For Gentiles, fellow heirs (with Jews) and partakers of promises
36	Ephesians 4:32	"And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."	Forgiveness
37	Philippians 1:13	"my chains are in Christ;"	Sometimes persecution
38	Philippians 2:1	"Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy,"	Consolation, comfort, love, Spirit fellowship, affection, mercy
39	Philippians 2:5	"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,"	Mind of Christ

40	Philippians 3:3	"For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,"	Part of the covenant with God, rejoicing, confident in Him only
41	Philippians 3:9	"and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;"	Righteousness of Jesus
42	Philippians 3:14	"I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."	Prize of heaven
43	Colossians 1:28	"Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus."	Perfection in Jesus
44	1 Thessalonians 4:16	"For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first."	Resurrection, catching up with Jesus
45	1 Thessalonians 5:18	"in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."	Thankful hearts
46	1 Timothy 1:14	"And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."	Grace, faith, love
47	1 Timothy 3:13	" great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus."	Boldness in the faith
48	2 Timothy 1:1	"according to the promise of life which is <u>in</u> <u>Christ</u> Jesus,"	Life
49	2 Timothy 1:9	"who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,"	A holy calling, for His purpose, grace
50	2 Timothy 1:13	"Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus."	Faith and love
51	2 Timothy 2:1	"You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus."	Grace
52	2 Timothy 2:10	"they also may obtain the salvation which is <u>in</u> <u>Christ</u> Jesus with eternal glory."	Salvation, eternal glory
53	2 Timothy 3:12	" all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."	Sometimes persecution
54	2 Timothy 3:15	"the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."	Wisdom, salvation by faith
EE	Philemon 1:6	" though I might be very bold in Christ,"	Boldness

- What do you think about those words of Jesus now? A simple phrase, "You in Me, and I in you." What does it mean? EVERYTHING. Being "in Christ" is also living the Christian life of obedience and commitment to Him, just what He is speaking of in these verses. Paul says, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)
- COMMENTARY: "You in me, and I in you" is one of the most profound statements in the Gospel of John or in the whole Bible. They are all monosyllabic words so that a little child can understand them; yet no philosopher can plumb the depths of their meaning. (Mc Gee)

²¹"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

- "He who has My commandments and keeps them..." It is interesting to note that the Greek word for "keeps" here is tereo, which literally means to guard against loss, keeping "an eye on them" and preventing them from loss. This is more than just being obedient. This is guarding the words of Jesus, His commands and do's and don'ts for us by making them a cherished part of who we are, guarding against their loss in our lives. These words are at the forefront of who we are, and guide all that we do. If we love Him, we love His words, and we guard them against loss in our lives. This is more than mere following the rules, more than mere obedience. A watchful and guarding stance is implied here. The person who does this obviously loves Jesus. It is a mark of that love.
- "And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him..." Scriptures tell us that "We love Him because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19) It is Jesus' love for us that sent Him to a cross, even before we knew Him or could love Him. Now He says that when we love Him in return, the Father will love us in return, and Jesus Himself will love us. This is a new and
 - expanded love now, reserved for believers and lovers of Jesus. That love will have a special additional bonus: Jesus will "... manifest Myself to him." The Greek word for "manifest" is emphanizō, which means to exhibit in person, disclose by words, appear and declare plainly. It also means to show and signify. Wow! What Jesus is saying here is that for those who love Him and keep His commands, He will come to them and declare Himself. He will make Himself clear, evident and real. He will disclose Himself and exhibit Himself to us. He is not limited in the ways He does this, but the most obvious



- is through the living Word itself. Beyond that, how He works in our individual lives, how He speaks to us, how He listens and answers our prayers, how He provides, protects, leads, teaches, loves and cherishes us will all be evident and plainly declared.
- He has fulfilled this promise over and over in the lives of believers. <u>His love is concrete, tangible, felt and experienced</u>. Jesus proves Himself to us! That is quite remarkable. Every believer who loves Jesus knows this, and has experienced this manifested love.

²²Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, "Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?" ²³Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴"He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.

Another disciple named Judas, not the infamous betrayer, apparently has a missionary's heart! He is concerned about the rest of the world. He has mistakenly interpreted Jesus' words as only applying to those in that room that night. He thinks this is a limited revelation and manifestation. Jesus plainly answers that this amazing promise is not just for those confused disciples. It is clearly for "anyone who loves" Jesus.

- "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, ..." The word used here for "anyone" implies just that ANYONE! Whosoever will.... This is a promise for anyone, not just those disciples in that room. If you love Jesus, you will automatically "keep" His word, and the Father will love you in return. And now there is one more promise....
- "We will come to him and make Our home with him." Those who love Jesus will become the residence of the Father and the Son....through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. These are things we cannot comprehend, but we can sure believe them, experience them, and be filled with joy because of them. The Godhead, the FULLNESS of the Godhead, will dwell in us. By living daily with us, every heartbeat, every breath, every moment, we cannot help but experience the manifested presence of Jesus in us.
- We must notice that loving Jesus and keeping His words are always in tandem. You cannot have one without the other. We cannot just profess to be Christians. We must keep His word and live like those who love Jesus. It is obvious, however, that those who truly love Jesus WILL keep His word. We cannot do otherwise and still love Him. Those who wear a "Christian" label, but do not keep His commands, or live obediently, quite honestly must not really know Him yet. To know Him is to love Him, as the saying goes. And to love Him is to keep and live His commands. No, we won't always do it perfectly. So thank God for His merciful grace and forgiveness. But as a rule, those who know Jesus love Him, and those who truly love Him DO keep His words. Knowing Jesus is not about church membership, good deeds, or living a "good life." It is not about knowing about Him. Knowing Jesus is a living breathing relationship with Him. Not knowledge, not ritual...relationship. And in this way, and this way only, can we have any impact on the world around us, by living His commands.

²⁵"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. ²⁶"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

- In the course of His teaching on this night, Jesus mentions several times He is leaving soon. That is why this teaching is so important. The disciples do not know yet that Jesus will die within the next hours. They have heard enough to make them fearful, but they still don't know exactly what will happen. Jesus now reminds them again He is leaving, but there is much more for them to know, even after He leaves.
- They will carry on His work, and will, as He said earlier, have a much larger and broader scope
 of ministry than He had on earth. It is important for them to be paying attention to Him now,
 while He is still with them.
- "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit..." Now He tells them again that His Father will send someone new...He is called "the helper." The Greek word here is parakletos, which means an advocate, a comforter, someone who walks alongside and stands up for us, assists us, teaches us. Here is the third person of the three-in-one Godhead. And this must have been confusing also. To the monotheistic Jew ("Sh'ma, Yisra'el! ADONAI Eloheinu, ADONAI echad!" "Hear O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is ONE!" from the Sh'ma, Deuteronomy 6:4) there is but ONE God. Now Yeshua comes and claims to be God, and then a third presence, also God. This was a difficult concept for the fiercely monotheistic Jew!
- They are learning of the triune nature of their God. But it is only after this Advocate, the third person of the Godhead, comes to them, will they understand.



- In Hebrew, the "Holy Spirit" is *Ruach HaKodesh*. In Greek it is *Hagios Pneuma*.
- It was a comfort just to know that Jesus was sending someone else to walk with them. But in their minds it wasn't their beloved Master, who was leaving them. What they didn't realize is that <u>He was leaving them in the flesh, but coming in the Spirit</u>. This is the way Jesus is manifested to those who love Him. And what a comfort for us, every moment, to know that He is with us (will NEVER forsake us!), and advocates for us every day.
- "He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." This Comforter will be their teacher. Jesus has taught them up to now, but soon the Holy Spirit will take over this role. And when He does, He will remind them of all the things Jesus said, and facilitate their understanding of these things. The message and good news of Jesus depended on them understanding. Quite obviously they did, eventually. The Good News did spread throughout the world. Without the understanding of what Jesus was teaching, the understanding of who He is, truly, the message and the movement would have died shortly after this little discussion. Instead, it is alive and vibrant today, as God continues His perfect plan of reunion with Him.

²⁷"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

- Jesus now wraps up this discussion by taking the disciples, and us, <u>back to His first words of this chapter</u>. He reminds them again not to be afraid, not to be confused, not to be "stressed" as we would say. He is leaving something precious with them His peace.
- "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you."

 Although He is leaving them in the flesh, He is also leaving something amazing with them. He is leaving behind HIS PEACE. And this is a peace that "surpasses all understanding." ("...and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7). The word for "surpasses" means that it is far superior, greater, than whatever false peace the world can provide. There really is no real peace in this world. Jesus leaves these disciples, and makes it available for us as well, a peace that defies the world's idea of peace. This is a peace that is only available to believers. The world cannot understand this peace. The world can never be at peace, real peace, without Jesus.
- The word for "peace" here is the Greek eirene, which is literally peace of mind and rest of spirit, but also implies prosperity. It is not a physical prosperity, but a spiritual, emotional and mindful prosperity. It is a soul completely at rest in Jesus, filled with the prosperity, the riches of Him. If this was all Jesus left behind, it would be the most cherished gift on this planet. But this is only one of many things He provides us here. How often do we forget to rest in this peace, to allow it to flood our souls and make worries vanish? Think about this!

²⁸"You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I.

Yes, He is going away, but not really. They will not see Him in the flesh, but they will experience and live in Him in the Spirit. And that is for us, too. Thousands of years later believers have not been blessed to see Him with their physical eyes (someday we will!), but we have been bountifully blessed to live in Him daily, to experience His constant presence and continued peace, and His daily manifestation in us.

- He tells them they should rejoice that He is going away because of the amazing blessings that will come in His place. Jesus is going back to the Father and would send the Comforter to them. He would also be glorified on His return to the Father. But the disciples didn't quite understand this right now.
- "...for My Father is greater than I." Many people have misunderstood this comment. Jesus is not saying that He is less than the Father, because He has repeatedly stated that He and the Father are One. Jesus is equal to the Father in every way. He is just as much the I AM as the Father. What the disciples could see and experience, however, is the manifestation of God in the flesh, which at that moment and in that state, was less than the Father in Spirit. Being human was considered His "humiliation" or reduction of glory in the physical state. But when Jesus is glorified, He returns to His equal footing with the Father in every way. For this, if they understood it, the disciples should have rejoiced.
- COMMENTARY: "Arians and Jehovah's Witnesses argue from the statement, 'The Father is greater than I,' that Jesus is a lesser god. But this would make Jesus a created being or would lead to polytheism, both of which are clearly unbiblical. The Father and the Son share the same essence (cf. John 1:1-2; John 14:9; John 20:28). The Father and the Son are "One" in purpose and essence (John 10:30). Thus the Father is greater in office or glory than the Son was in His humiliation." (Walvoord and Zuck)

²⁹"And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. ³⁰"I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me. ³¹"But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here.

- Throughout scripture God authenticates Himself through prophecy. He inhabits eternity and knows the end from the beginning. Jesus tells His disciples that He is giving them all this information before it happens, SO THAT when it actually happens, they will remember and believe. What is it they will believe? All the things He has told them! They will believe His is indeed the promised Messiah sent to save the world. He is the Anointed One who will come again and establish His Kingdom. He is equal with the Father, God in every way. He is the One whose Spirit will never leave them or forsake them. He is the One to whom all the scriptures point. He is the fulfillment of everything. He is the I AM.
- This understanding is what will become the base of power for all disciples who believe and witness for Him to the rest of the world.
- Jesus says He can't talk much more with them, "...for the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me." What a grand statement! Jesus knows that the enemy is working through Judas, and the Jewish rulers who seek to kill Him. The time is short and the betrayal is just moments away. But then He says this enemy "has nothing in Me."
- We must remember that Satan is a *created* being. He has limited power and that power does NOT extend to God Himself. And with God dwelling in us through the presence of the Holy Spirit, whatever power the enemy has been delegated does not extend to us, either! We *must* remember this. We must live in this truth, knowing that our God is all powerful. There is nothing and no one above Him. There is no entity more powerful, and He lives with us. Wow.

- "But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do." Jesus will not resist what is about to happen to Him. In obedience to the Father's commandment, He is ready and willing to die, even though He knows full well what was ahead for Him. And why does He do this? The obvious answer is because He loves us (John 3:16). But in this verse Jesus makes another statement about the "why" of what is happening. "That the world may know that I love the Father..." The world will know who Jesus is, that He and the Father are One, that He obediently and willingly subjected Himself to a horrid death and separation from the Father on the cross. This is a testimony to the world of God's love.
- "Arise, let us go from here." Their time together in the upper room is over. The time for Jesus to die, the entire reason He came to earth, is here. He is still leading these confused disciples and there will be a little more teaching and information as they move out into the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus knows what is coming. He is ready, and voluntarily goes to His soon death. The next 24 hours will be a nightmare for these disciples. And Jesus lovingly leads them even here, out to the place where He will be betrayed and arrested. Their heads are swimming and their hearts are heavy right now, but it will only get worse. Jesus loves and leads them all the way to the end.

