

The Stability of The Permanent

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John 14:22-31 ²²Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, "But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?" ²³Jesus 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. ²⁴He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me. ²⁵All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. ²⁷Peace 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. ²⁸"You heard me say, 'I am going away and I am coming back to you.' If you loved me, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. ²⁹I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen you will believe. ³⁰I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, ³¹but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me. "Come now; let us leave."

I. What are the details of this passage?

- A.** The disciples often thought that Jesus was to be an **earthly** king. V. 22
- B.** The disciples preferred a **physical** messiah instead of an invisible one. V. 22
- C.** Even **true** disciples can be wrong or misled. V. 22 This was the same disciple known as: Thaddeus (Mark 3:18, Matthew 10:3) and Judas Son of James (Luke 6:16 and Acts 1:13). (Even we, of this generation of Christians, tend to prefer the tangible, the familiar.) The problem with the words "*I am coming back to you.*" V. 28
 - 1.** It can mean His **second** coming. But then why would he say that the world will not see him. We know that all shall behold him.
 - 2.** It can just refer to the coming of the **Holy Spirit**. Acts 16:7, Phil. 1:19
 - 3.** It can also refer to His **post** resurrection appearances. I believe that it is a combination of the last two. Matt. 28:20b "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." He really never left us. God is not limited to a body. For 2,000 years He has been reigning through His Church. The fight has been to keep the church blinded to this fact.

II. How can we apply these truths?

- A.** We must be humble in our **interpretations** of God's word. It is possible to get it wrong.
- B.** We must claim the **peace** that we are promised in God's word.
- C.** We must become aware of our points of great **disconnect**.
- D.** If we do not hear or sense the **presence** of the Holy Spirit, this must drive us to draw **closer** to God not to distance ourselves from Him.