

JOHN 14 vs 1

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The ancients tell us, John lived the longest of the 12 disciples; those original followers of the Lord; it is John, the disciple whom Jesus loved... eye-witness to Jesus Christ, who was inspired to tell these details. On the night He was betrayed... while they were still in the upper room, Jesus said to His disciples:

After Judas left the Passover gathering, rehearsing the customs and traditions of the long awaited 1st Day of the 7 great Days that belonged to the Lord which Moses told us about -- Leviticus 23. After Judas went to complete his treacherous act, Jesus spoke plainly to His disciples; and John records more fully, the final words of Jesus which were dinned in their ears that night.

Jesus is a good Teacher... He expects His students to learn and individually apply His lessons to their lives. Back in chapter 8, Jesus already said: If you continue in My word... then you are My disciples indeed; And you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free. It was religious hypocrites, lovers of their traditions... who wanted to argue with Him, and take up stones to kill Him.

Jesus said...

¹ Let not your heart be troubled: you believe in

God, believe also in Me / you rightly placed your confidence in God; trust Me also with what I tell you.

² In My Father's house / this Greek phrase is: en te oikia ton Patros mou...more literally: **in the house of the Father of me**. In John's gospel... of the 126 times this word for Father is used, 118 times it is Jesus talking about His Father; a real Father... who really lives in heaven.

In my Father's house / and notice, Jesus is not talking about a brick and stone building in Jerusalem. Remember, the last time He was there... He disowned that place and said, to those religious hard heads... Your house -- not his Father's house... is left to you a waste.

I bet where His Father lives is a place where they are merry; and make merry, and be glad. I bet it's the happiest place in the whole universe! You know, Jesus likes His Father, a lot! Where on earth did we ever get the idea that His Father... was mean? Obviously from someone powerful enough to twist the scripture. It is interesting to note: NEVER once... do we read that Jesus is afraid of His Father. Rather, Jesus greatly loves His Father... and wants us to love His Father... who is our Father, too. And Jesus, the night He was betrayed, is going to tell us about where His Father lives... and it's not in brick and stone buildings that look like dreary mausoleums... made with hands.

In my Father's house are many places to live / the Greek word is: **mone**... it is a noun, used twice in scripture -- only in this chapter; and it means: a place to live; **a place to call home -- many mone**...



I bet in heaven, every place has a spectacular room with a view. Jesus uses earthly terms to describe the heavenly reality. They already knew what Isaiah said **No eye has seen; no ear has heard**; nor has it entered the imagination... all God has prepared for those who love Him.

In my Father's house are many... places to call home: if it was **not so, I would have told you** / and Jesus who is a little different than us, He did not sound like the religious or political leaders of His day. He is not speaking about some wishful dream He fabricated -- Jesus always speaks truth!

if it was not so, I would have told you.

I go to prepare a place for you / and for the past 2,000 years, Jesus has been a little busy, building His church... the one that He is Head over; Hebrew tradition says, once the Groom finds his bride, then he must go and make a place to honor this Love-of-his-life, and only after the Father gives consent that all the preparations meet His standard of excellence... then the son can go and bring her to his house.

³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself that where I am, there you may be also. / one day, **the Love of His life** He will received there;

⁴ And where I go you perceive, and the way you perceive.

⁵ Thomas said to him, Lord, we do **not perceive where you go; how can we perceive the way?**

⁶ Jesus said to him, **I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life:**

****no one comes to the Father, but by Me.****

⁷ If you had known Me, you should have known My Father also: and from this time forward you know Him, and have seen Him.

⁸ Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.

/ Isaiah said 800 years earlier... **a Child would be born; a Son would be given**. He would be a Wonderful Counselor; a Mighty one; **an everlasting Father; a Prince of peace**. The zeal of the LORD of Hosts would make it happen. If they didn't know; they should have.

⁹ Jesus said to him, Have I been so long a time with you, yet you do not know Me, Philip? he who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how then do you say, Show us the Father?

10 Do you **not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? the words that I speak to you I speak **not** of Myself: but the Father who **lives** in Me / **meno** He does the works.**

11 Believe Me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me: or else believe Me on account of the very works / Jesus assures Phillip, be confident, He does the works of the Father; and those works which are done could only be from God the Father. He is the only God we will ever see!

12 Amen! Amen! I say to you, He who believes on Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to My Father.

13 And whatever you ask in My name / what we ask, representing Jesus.

This verse is repeated 7 times in the following chapters; it is not: whatever we ask representing our desires. His disciples grew up knowing: **Psalm 37**. I bet they could sing from memory the first 7 verses... with all its action words... starting with: fret not; trust in the Lord, and do good; delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires; commit your way to the Lord; rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.

Jesus does not suggest that every desire which comes into our heart and mind is automatically from the Lord; and then we like little birdbrains chirp: In Jesus' name, which always sounds like: Polly want a cracker?!

So keep the verse in context, regarding His agenda for the church He is building... including daily picking up our cross... and denying our self, dying to our selfish needs. Paul wrote of the last days: **Perilous times are at the door... when men will be lovers of self, rather than lovers of God.**

Jesus said, whatever you ask representing Me, I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If you ask any thing... in My name / truly representing Me, **I will do it.**

Obviously, many wonder why their prayers go unanswered. Many... mostly those who do not pick up their cross daily, or who relearn to deny themselves daily; they wonder why God the Father is silent... so often. Well, the answer is simple: because He is! He has no need to show off; and He won't violate His word... no matter how wonderful we may think we are. As Dr. Dallas Willard said of the Eternal God, our Father is powerful. And if His power is anything like electricity... then He is also dangerous... and we better learn how to approach Him correctly.

Jesus said the night He was betrayed...**If you ask any thing representing Me, I will do it.**

The Forbidden Book.