

A. John 14:22-31 – Judas Thaddaeus' question

1. John 14:22 – *Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?”* Judas Thaddaeus, the son of James, just heard Jesus say that the world will no longer see Him (Jn 14:19). That made him ask why Jesus would **disclose** Himself to His followers but not to the world.
 - a. The disciples were anxious for Jesus to reveal Himself as Messiah-King to the world. Until that evening, they had been riding high. Jesus had defied Jewish leaders, raised to life a decaying man, and arrived in Jerusalem triumphantly. Now they were impatient for Him to show Himself as **King**.
 - b. The sudden realization that Jesus was not going to immediately reveal Himself to the world, provoked Judas' question. **Why** would Jesus show Himself to them but not to the rest of the world? Jesus was clearly not living up to his expectations. The disciples tried to make sense of what Jesus was planning and doing.
 - c. This question revealed that they wanted Jesus to immediately set up His **Kingdom**, right then. They had a lot to learn. They did not know about the Church Age. It would take time and the coming of the Holy Spirit to fully understand God's timetable. Acts 1:6-8
2. John 14:23 – *Jesus 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 abode with him .* Jesus did not directly answer Thaddaeus's question. He simply returned to the theme of love (1 Cor. 13:1-3) and showed him how he or anyone else could **already** get to know Him. 1 John 2:3-6
 - a. We know Jesus referred to believers here because only believers can truly love Him and treasure His teaching. Every believer who guards God's word enjoys close **communion** with the Father and the Son. This promise of close fellowship with God is very special and encouraging.
 - b. Even though God loves all His children, only those who walk in the light, guarding His word, enjoy intimacy with Him. Jesus and the Father will come make their **home** with each believer who keeps His word. In the Church Age, believers who keep God's word will disclose Jesus to the world. John 1:1-7
3. John 14:24a – *“He who does not love Me does not keep My words...”* Just like the believer who loves Jesus keeps His word, the believer who does not love Jesus does not keep His word. Believers who do not guard God's word **show** they really do not love God. If they loved Him, they would keep His word.
 - a. In John 8:31-32 Jesus explained this dynamic, *“So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, ‘If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free’ .”* By keeping God's word, they manifestly showed they were Jesus' **disciples**.
 - b. The disciples who walked away from Jesus in John 6:66 and the believing Pharisees who remained quiet about their faith in John 12:42 are prime examples of believers who did not guard Christ's words. Their low esteem of His words showed they did **not love** God.
4. John 14:24b – *“...and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's [word] who sent Me.”* Jesus' words carried divine authority. His words were the Father's words. To disregard or refuse Christ's words was to **disregard** and refuse the Father since He was the true source of Christ' teachings.
5. John 14:25 – *“These things I have spoken to you while abiding MENO with you.”* All the days, months and years Jesus dwelt among His disciples, He **continually** taught them God's truth. Here in this verse the word *abiding MENO* means Jesus lived among them and remained in continual companionship with them.
 - a. Jesus used the term *abide MENO* three times in John 14. This term will be extensively applied to the disciples in chapter 15. *Abide MENO* could be simply defined as remaining in **unbroken** fellowship.
 - 1) In John 14:10b we see, *“ The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding MENO in Me does His works.”* Because they kept unbroken fellowship, God the Father was free to **accomplish** His works through God the Son.
 - 2) In John 14:17b we also see, *“...but you know Him because He abides MENO with you and will be in you.”* God the Holy Spirit lived with the disciples in the person of Jesus Christ; however, very soon the Holy Spirit would come to live eternally **inside** the disciples. Romans 8:9-11
 - 3) Here now in John 14:25 we see, *“These things I have spoken to you while abiding MENO with you.”* This shows that day in and day out, throughout Jesus' public ministry, He was **continually** present with His disciples as He taught.
 - b. This is a somewhat difficult concept to grasp because the word *abide* literally means to remain somewhere or to stay in residence. Metaphorically, however, it carried the deeper concept of abiding in **intimate** companionship.

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- c. For the believer, abiding becomes an issue of faith. It carries the idea of resting, depending, and residing in fellowship. Of course, our fleshly nature very much resists this posture of continual **dependence** on the Lord. Since this is against our nature, faith-abiding becomes a robust battle for all believers.
6. John 14:26 – “ *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 that I said to you.* ” Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would not only remind them of what He, Jesus, had taught them during the time He resided among them, but would soon go further and teach them **all** things.
- a. After Jesus ascended to heaven, the Holy Spirit **reminded** the disciples of Jesus’ words. The fulfillment of this promise is the basis for the writings of the New Testament by the apostles. Without the work of the Holy Spirit, they would not have accurately or precisely remembered the details of Christ’s words and work. John 2:1617, 22
- b. After the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of **Pentecost**, He caused the apostles and prophets who authored the New Testament to remember the truth, just as Jesus had taught them. Jesus said, “[He will] ... *bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.*”
- c. Beyond reminding them of what Jesus had said, Jesus promised that the Holy Spirit would also teach them additional truth. These additional truths had to do with the **mysteries** of the present church age.
- d. In Ephesians 3:4-5, Paul said, “ *The mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the **Spirit** .* ”
- e. Today, the Holy Spirit continues a ministry of teaching, but He does not give **new** or additional truth. The Spirit teaches us by illuminating for us the already recorded truths found in the pages of the New Testament. 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
7. John 14:27 – “ *Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be **troubled** , nor let it be fearful.* ” This is the second time Jesus spoke peace to the hearts of His followers. In John 14:1 He instructed them to not let their hearts be troubled. This was a truth they needed to guard, now and in the days to come.
- a. Jesus Christ alone gives true **peace** that provides confidence and abolishes fear. This world does not give peace. This world gives conflict, war and hatred. Only Jesus can say, “Don’t be worried and upset,” and actually deliver on those words. Jesus alone gives us the incredible gift of tranquility. Philippians 4:7, John 16:33, Acts 10:36, Romans 1:7
- b. Romans 15:13 says, “ *Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.* ” Christianity is the only belief system on earth that delivers on the promise of providing **genuine** peace to its adherents. Are you enjoying His peace today?
8. John 14:28a – *You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’* Jesus rehashed what He told them in John 13:33. This was the very statement that had greatly troubled the disciples and started this long discussion (Jn. 14). Jesus reminded them again, that although He is going away, He would **return** to them.
9. John 14:28b – *..If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.* Since Jesus said they should have **rejoiced** at the news of His going to the Father, we can conclude that His leaving would actually be exceedingly positive for them. Why was it a good thing that Jesus would go to the Father?
- a. It is good that Jesus is with the Father because from that posture He is able to **advocate** and intercede for us whenever there is a problem, question or accusation. Romans 8:34; Hebrews 7:25, 9:24; 1 John 2:1; Revelation 12:10
- b. It is good that Jesus is with the Father because from that posture He **mediates** between all mankind and God. 1 Timothy 2:5 explains, “ *For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus .* ”
- c. It was good for Jesus to go to the Father because when He did, He sent the **Holy Spirit** to indwell each believer to be their comforter, guide and constant companion, strength and wisdom.
- d. Because Lord Jesus became a **man**, in His humanity, He can only be in one place at a time, with one group of people. By means of the Holy Spirit indwelling every believer everywhere on earth, God can now accomplish His work around the world.
10. John 14:29 – “ *Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe .* ” The literal fulfillment of this prophecy, that Jesus would rise from the dead, ascend into heaven and represent us before the Father, would **strengthen** the disciples’ faith in Him and in His words.
- a. With the coming of the Holy Spirit the disciples would **know** He was glorified and currently advocating on their behalf. Luke 24:49 says, “ *And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you*

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- are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high .” Acts 1:4*
- b. John 7:39 says, “ *But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet **glorified** .”*
 - c. Acts 2:33 says, “ *Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has **poured** forth this which you both see and hear.”*
11. John 14:30 – “ *I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me .”* Jesus predicted the manifestation of **Satan** through Judas Iscariot, who would betray Him. This testimony shows Christ’s omniscience and power over the devil. He was in complete control of the circumstances of His suffering and death.
- a. Jesus told His disciples that His ability to minister directly to them was soon coming to an end. This is because He was about to be face to face with the **tyrant** who had long ruled this world. Even at that moment, Judas was snaking about, entirely possessed by the devil.
 - b. Jesus assured His followers that even though he would face Satan, Satan had nothing over Him; no authority, no claims, and no grip on Him. The disciples needed to hear this **victory** statement so that they would not lose heart when Jesus was arrested.
12. John 14:31 – “ *...but so that the world KOSMOS may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here .”* Jesus Christ would **complete** the Father’s plan despite any personal pain or vicious confrontations. He knew He would suffer on our behalf, but He gladly accepted that cup from His Father’s hand. John 4:34
- a. Jesus always did His Father’s **will**. Because He always did the will of God, the whole cosmos could see that He unquestionably loved His Father. Hebrews 10:7-10, 12:2
 - b. Jesus and the disciples left the Upper Room and headed for the Garden of Gethsemane. The garden was likely the **classroom** where He used the metaphor of a grape vine to teach some crucial truths to His disciples.