

BELIEVE IN GOD

In the light of current events, many people in the world including Christians are becoming more and more worried and troubled.

Covid -19, flu vaccinations, masks, violence in the nation, violence in the streets, violence in the homes, troubles in Washington, troubles on the border, troubles in the community it seems if all we hear discouraging and troubling.

The Greeks of Jesus' time had a word for this, Tarasso - to stir or agitate, to trouble. In (John 5:4) the lame would wait by the sheep gate pool for an angel of the Lord, at certain seasons, to enter the pool and stirred up the water. Whoever was first to step into the pool, after it being stirred up, "was made well from whatever disease with which they were afflicted."

In reading our text (John 14:1-6) we find this word in a verbal form used as a negative imperative, also known as a prohibitive.

Tarassestho [troubled] with the negative (mn) (mn Tarassestho) in the English reads: "do not let your hearts be troubled"

Today, if you are troubled and worried about the Details of Life, or even if you are not, I would like to share three ideas from the text as to "why you shouldn't be troubled".

1. The first reason is simple enough.

We are given an imperative (a command, the Directive Will of God being a prohibitive) "to **not let** our hearts be troubled"

Eight out of the ten commandments are Hebrew "prohibitive's".

The very first prohibitive given was to Adam in the garden of Eden (Gen. 2:16-17) "of every tree you may freely eat but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat." It was volitional - used as a present. passive. imperative – which should be translated "You don't let trouble in!"

Adam chose not to obey, and it resulted in the fall of the human race (Rom. 5:12). In our passage Jesus gives the command, but Scripture records even He was troubled in His Spirit. (John 11:33, John 12:27, John 13:21)

2. In (John 14:1-6) I was amazed at the number of different doctrines I could teach.

I decided on **the Faith Cycle**. Why? Because in the first verse Jesus gives us three imperatives in one Greek sentence.

- **One** negative prohibitive and **two** present Active Imperatives (commands), using the verbal form of the noun "faith" (pistis). Pisteuo is the verbal form "to believe" in this case given as an imperative:
 - **Do not let your hearts be troubled!**
 - **Believe in God!**
 - **Believe in me also!**

Knowing what was coming, Jesus was preparing His disciples for what was to pass or happen in their lives.

PRINCIPLE: Knowing that we don't know what our future on earth holds, Jesus is giving us instructions as to be prepared for whatever may happen.

Believe in God is the command given to these eleven disciples, Judas had left (John 13:30). He had been teaching these disciples to have faith in God and faith in Him (John 12:44-50).

God knows you must cycle His word by faith in your heart because sometimes events can happen so quickly, we don't have time to take notes or to look at our computer or look up old lessons. Within 24 hours, Christ would be arrested, tried, convicted, brutally beaten, murdered, and buried.

Do you know what the next 24 hours of your life holds? His message, given in 30 AD has not changed for us today, in 2021 AD! Nor has our God changed! He can't change, His Character won't allow it! Isn't that wonderful to know?

Here is Jesus's response to each of His troubled thoughts. (John 11:33-40; John 12:27; John 12:27b; John 13:21)

Judas, why was He troubled? (1Tim 2:3) tells us that "God desires all men to be saved". (2 Pet. 3:9b) tells us that "He doesn't wish that any would perish, but for all to come to repentance". Therefore, believe in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for He doesn't want to lose one soul.

3. **Knowing the time for Him to glorify God and to fulfill His mission was short, Jesus again gives the command to "Believe in Him also".**

Three imperatives in one sentence are a big deal!

- (Acts 2:23-24) calls this Gospel. The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (the DBR) to be the pre-determined Plan of God,
- (Roms. 5:8-10) says that God demonstrated His love for us even while we were yet sinners when Christ died for us! It is God's Grace Plan for our salvation! Faith in Christ alone is our only hope!
- (Eph. 1:7-9) Paul writes "In Him (Christ) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses according to the riches of His grace which He (God) lavished on, in all wisdom and insight, who made known to us the mystery of His Will, according to His kind intention which He prepared in Him (Christ)!"

The Faith Cycle: When we **Hear** God's Word (John 12:49), **Believe** God's Word (John 12:50), **Apply** God's Word (John 19:30) - **God Completes** His Word!

(Rom. 4:24b-25) "but for our sake to whom it will be reckoned, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, He who was delivered up because of our transgressions and was raised because of our justification."

In conclusion, look at (Luke 24:36-38, 44-47) to see why He gives the three imperatives, because Jesus holds us in His hand and God holds Jesus!

(John 10:28-30) and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one." **Let your faith be LARGER than your fear!**