

“I Will Come to You” **John 14:15-21**

Introduction

Jesus has gathered His disciples for a final pep talk, which the apostle John records in detail in chapters 13-17. But it doesn't start as you might expect, as a rah-rah let's take the field and kick some butt.

Instead, Jesus said three things which are disconcerting to the twelve:

He has just told them:

I'm leaving, I'm going back to the Father, from whom I came.

And he is about to tell them:

You will all fall away. (very low self-confidence)

The world, including your own countrymen, doesn't understand Me or you, is hostile to you, and is going to hurt you.

This scenario has potential for fear, desperation, discouragement, and abandonment written all over it.

Jesus' pep talk deals directly with this problem. Let's ask these two questions of this particular text:

A. What is the great promise of the pep talk?

v.18: *“I will come to you”*.

The promise *I will come to you* has three levels of fulfillment:

First, v.1 Jesus promises to prepare a place for them.

Second, Jesus comes to the disciples after the resurrection.

Third, Jesus comes to them at Pentecost through the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit.

He says now I will send **another** helper.(v.16) *“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another** helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth...”*

B. What does Jesus intend this promise to do for you?

At least three things:

By this promise Jesus will settle any doubts that He is God.

Look at verse 20: “*In that day (when I come to you after the resurrection) you shall know that I am in the Father, and you in Me, and I in you.*”

By this promise He will settle any doubts that death separates them from God.

Verse 19 explains, “*After a little while the world will behold me no more (that’s a day away); but you will behold me (a clear prediction of the resurrection); because I live you shall live also.*”

Jesus will settle our doubts that we are orphans in this world.

(v.18). *I will not leave you as orphans...*

The immediate context centers on the fact that Jesus has been a kind of father figure, head of the family, to the disciples.

The broader Biblical context is simply this: Once sin severed man’s relationship with God, we are born at enmity with God, and He with us. So we feel like orphans in the universe, because we are.

Consider these characteristics of orphan living:

1. Feel alone, in a vacuum of self-concern
2. Feel the need to look good, fear rejection
3. Defensive, not very teachable; self-protective and guarded
4. Lack spiritual power
5. Feel guilty, unworthy,
6. ungrateful
7. Compare self to others
8. You have something to prove; want others to know you are competent, knowledgeable, likeable, skilled, successful. When you can’t find validation-from people or performance- you make excuses.

Spiritual orphans lack:
assurance of the Father’s love

trust in His plan, peace
open to criticism, quick to build up others
trust in the Spirit's power, risk taking

Jesus says, I'm the solution to that. He became fatherless on the cross-
becoming sin for us- cut off from life and his father.