

# “THE COMING, THE GOING, AND THE COMING”

John 14:25-31

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## INTRODUCTION

Sometimes we do not know whether we are coming or going!

Jesus knew why He was here, and He knew when and why He was leaving. He had been explaining all this to His disciples for some time now. But now the disciples needed to realize that someone was coming to Him before He would leave them—the Devil himself! But, Jesus was not about to cowardly run from Satan—He would face him square on! His enemy would only succeed in getting Jesus to do the work for which He had come; **the time had come for the Son to crush the head of the Serpent (Gen 3:15).**

Jesus rebukes his disciples, and us too, for being so self-focused and self centered. His disciples should be happy for Him that He was going away. Moreover, the end result of Jesus’ departure is the sending of two other special gifts: the **Holy Spirit**, and **peace**.

With these gifts we can face what lies ahead of us—no matter how difficult it might be. God gives us the *Helper/Advocate* and Jesus gives us His *peace*; with these two special gifts we can face anything that life brings us. **Jesus faced his fiercest and most powerful enemy when He went willingly to the Cross—and He won!**

**His Victory guarantees our victory, and His gifts to us enable us to experience that victory.**

YOU MUST RECEIVE THE HELP FROM YOUR COMFORTER/ADVOCATE, and  
YOU MUST ABIDE IN HIS PEACE.

Jesus begins this section by noting that He is speaking to His disciples while still remaining with them (v. 25). But again, He is about to depart and we must look at what that involves.

### I. THE ATTACK OF THE WORLD RULER (30)

- A. His identity—see 12:31; Rev. 12:1-5. Also called the “god of this world.” [Satan]  
He is represented by his loyal subjects—here Judas, the Jewish guard, and Roman soldiers.
- B. His Seeming success—“I will not speak much more with you.”  
Jesus’ time with His disciples is limited; He will suffer and die.
- C. His helplessness—“He has nothing in Me.”
  - **Since Jesus is perfect and sinless, there is nothing in Jesus belonging to him, and therefore Jesus has no guilt and no claim for punishment.**

### II. THE CHARGE INTO THE TEETH OF THE LION (31)

Note the NT reference to Satan as a lion. Jesus does not seek to avoid His foe!

He presents Himself to his adversaries in the garden of Gethsemane—yes, another **garden** where Jesus engages the battle!

- A. Because He loves the Father—and therefore obeys Him, doing His will (His commandment) and fully accomplishing His purpose.
- B. In order to manifest this love to the world—that **the world, under the dominion of its Ruler**, may recognize His willing submission to His Father.
- C. In order to lead His followers by example in doing the Father’s will: “Arise, let us go from here.”

### III. THE JOY OF JESUS’ LOVED ONES OVER HIS DEPARTURE (28-29)

**We must be extremely happy that Jesus departed!** Without his work of atonement, there would be no Salvation!

- A. We disciples are too self-absorbed  
We see our immediate loss and miss the long term gain—**for Him and us.**
- B. We don’t think of what it all means to Jesus—to return to His Father!  
If we really loved Him we would want **what is best for Him.**
- C. But, implied in all this is what is best for us also—by going to the Father He wins the victory and provides for our salvation—here and for eternity!
- D. All this is true because “the Father is greater than I.”  
**One of the favorite verses for Arians of all ages—including the present time.** Greater in “origin” but not in “essence.”—Jesus as the “eternally generated Son”, and/or Jesus as the Incarnate Son.
- E. When the crisis comes and Jesus completes His work, then they will believe fully since they will more fully comprehend what He has done for them (29).

### IV. THE OTHERS THAT JESUS SENDS IN HIS PLACE (26-27)

A. He Sends the Paraclete (26).

1. The “Helper” and “Advocate”—the one who comes alongside us.
2. “The **Holy Spirit**”—Cf. 1:33; 20:22.  
Holy in His character; sinless and pure; possesses all moral divine attributes.  
He produces holiness in believers—sanctification. This is the regular term for Him in the NT.
3. “He”—John deliberately uses an unnecessary masculine pronoun for the Spirit, even though the word “spirit” is neuter. A strong argument for His personality.
4. Sent by the Father (cf. 15:26—sent by the Son!).
5. Sent in Jesus’ name.
6. Fulfills Jesus’ work—cf. Acts 1:1 (“What Jesus began to do and teach”).  
Enables the disciples to carry on that work of witnessing and church building.
  - “He will teach you all things.” [Everything that they need for life and work—cf. I Jn. 2:27.] He would help them to understand the significant events of the crucifixion, burial, resurrection, ascension, session, etc.

- “He will bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.”
- This also involves their coming to a better understanding of what Jesus had taught them—cf. Jn. 2:22; 12:16.
- Note that Jesus also gave them further instruction after His resurrection—see e.g. Lk. 24:27ff, 44ff; Acts 1:3.
- **Note that this verse justifies the writing of John’s Gospel (and the others) as well as the New Testament!**

#### B. He Sends His Peace (27)

1. Definition of “Peace” in the Hebraic sense, secular sense, and in the special sense intended here.
2. Identification of Peace
 

Could refer to reconciliation with God, cessation from conflicts both in the world and interpersonal, general well-being, or **internal calmness and serenity, and well-being**. The context shows that the latter is especially in view. It is the assurance of salvation and of God’s loving presence under all circumstances; it results from exercising faith in God and in Jesus (14:1) and from trusting His gracious promises (14:2-3).
3. The impartation of peace—both a *bequest* and a *gift*.
4. The distinction of Jesus’ peace from that of the *world*.
  - a. In Kind—Not from outward pleasure, physical rest and enjoyment, honor, wealth—which are all futile. The believer has “**the inner assurance which is the reflection of the smile of God in the heart of His child**” (287—Hendrickson).
  - b. In Manner
5. The Evidence of Peace: “Let not your (plural) heart (singular) be troubled, nor let it be afraid.”
 

“*Troubled*”—like the stirring and agitation of a sea under a stiff wind.  
 “*Afraid*”—cowardly timid.

#### CONCLUSION

Yes, **You must accept the Helper’s comfort and must experience Jesus’ gift of Peace!**

He died for you to have such peace; will you disregard the benefits of His death?

***DON’T LET YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED; NEITHER LET IT BE AFRAID.***

Read Hab. 3:17-18—Do you have that kind of peace?