

The title for today's message is: **SO WHERE ARE YOU GOING?**

Jesus said: **"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.**

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Where are you going? Maybe someone has asked you that question when you have been in a rush to get somewhere.

Or, maybe you will ask other people that question sometime this month. After all, the month of May, June and July is known for graduations.

This month Many of us may be invited to a graduation or two. And what do we often ask graduates? "Where are you going? What's next?"

It can be the most important question of a life time. How we answer this will set up or form the rest of our lives.

Many of us wake up one day without any direction in our life at all, and for many of us were not in any hurry to get anywhere special.

Now the same question comes before us here this morning: "So where are you going?"

But all of us have to be going somewhere at one time or another. Today our Lord Jesus Christ gives us an option.

As believers we know there are two paths, one, the path that walks in the way of the Lord, and two, the path that doesn't walk in the way of the Lord.

In Matthew chapter 7 Jesus uses the following words to explain this. He said: ***"Enter through the narrow gate.***

***For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.***

***For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.***

So where are you going, remains the question. As believers in Christ we ask the Lord, show us your way and when He does it's clear He Himself is the way.

Now, the setting for our text is very important here. Jesus said this to His disciples on the night He was betrayed.

In fact it was Maundy Thursday, and the disciples were going to face great difficulty and heartache.

Here Jesus encourages His disciples by saying: ***"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me.***

Jesus said this to them, because He had just announced that one of them would betray Him that very night.

Jesus was saying; this betrayal wasn't something they should be troubled about. Instead, they should simply trust in God.

And by doing so, they would also trust in Jesus. They were being asked to prepare for Jesus' departure.

Here Jesus reminds them about His departure, He said: ***In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you.***

***I am going there to prepare a place for you.*** Of course, Jesus is talking about heaven. That He's going there to prepare a place for His disciples.

A room! How comforting it is to have ones own room. Jesus goes on to assure His disciples by saying;

***If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.***

Here Jesus isn't only saying that He is going ahead to prepare a place for them, but that He's going to also return and take them with Him.

Now, according to our text for today, what happens? Jesus is telling them that He will soon be crucified.

And that He would pay the price for their, and all believers sins, and as He does so, He will ascend into heaven and prepare a place for them.

Then Jesus tells His disciples: ***You know the way to the place where I am going.***"

Thomas one of the disciples said to Jesus; ***"Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"***

Philip another disciple spoke up and said; ***"Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."***

Now, in answering Philip, Jesus was trying to point out that He and the Father were one of the same, yet again Philip didn't understand.

Where are you going?" Today, it is no different; except sadly in our society people look in all directions to find the way.

The world offers, or so it seems, satisfaction and contentment in the way of wealth. It holds out the way of prosperity as the best direction to take in life.

Today our world offers all kinds of great attractions, that become nothing more than distractions from God's true way.

So we have to continue to ask; "Where are we going? Lord, show us the way." We're told in Lamentations chapter 3:

***"The LORD is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD".***

We say: "Lord, show us Your way." But then, we have to listen to what God has to say to us. Not so easy in our society today is it.

Yes, there are all sorts of distractions, such as the noise of the TV, the din of the computers, and stereos that blast, just to name a few.

Yet what does Lamentations say? ***"The Lord is good to those who hope in Him. It is good to wait quietly to listen to His response."*** So where are you going.

We don't take the opportunity sometimes to hear the Lord. We spend more time in this world listening to it, than we sit in a pew on Sunday, reading our Bibles, or attending Bible Study.

We spend many more hours in a day doing things that are appealing to our flesh, rather than to our soul.

That just is the way life distracts us. Yes, life does distract us and usually sends us in the wrong direction.

Listen to what the Lord says: ***“Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD”***.

You know, from time to time we make great plans, that is we think we do. We plan to do this, and that on such and such a day.

And we work hard to accomplish our great plans. But, we allow our heart to turn away from the Lord, all because we end up trusting in ourselves.

So, more often than not, we have to bring ourselves back and say, "Where are you going?" All the while Knowing there is only one direction to go in.

We turn to the Lord and say, "Lord, show us your way." And He does! So Its vital, that we listen to what the Lord says to us at all times.

As believers were reminded to seek first His kingdom, and righteousness. Isaiah declared in chapter 30:

***"Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, This is the way; walk in it."***

The Lord shows us the way, the right path. A path with a small gate, and a narrow road, the path that only leads to life eternal.

Our loving Lord calls us from the darkness into His light, that we would live with Him forever. So again where are you going?

Now, here is the comforting part, a stunning conclusion that Jesus gave to His disciples and to you and me concerning their questions.

Jesus said: ***"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."***

Here Jesus wanted His disciples and you and me to see Him as the only savior of the world, the very Son of God.

So He said: ***"No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well.***

***From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him."*** Jesus says: ***Listen to Me."*** Yet, we know how hard that is at times, just as it was for the disciples.

And in the same way when Jesus said: ***"I must go to Jerusalem and be put to death,"*** it was hard for the disciples to believe that Jesus and the Father were one.

Jesus continued saying: ***"I am in the Father and the Father is in me"***. So where are you going?

Look our Lord reminds us over and over that He is the way and our life. Remember, Jesus lived and died that we would die to sin and live for Him.

Still today, some are blind. Many are like the disciples and look at Jesus as a miracle worker, a good teacher, one who spoke the truth, but God's Son.

No! Even though all throughout Scripture it testifies to the truth that this Lord Jesus of Nazareth, is in fact God's own Son.

Paul writes in Timothy chapter 1: ***"This grace...has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel"***.

My friends this is the only way to life eternal. So pray to the Lord, asking Him to show you the way, every day.

Asking Him to remind you that He Himself is: ...***the way and the truth and the life.*** Oh, at times we might fall but the Lord says, "Look beyond that.

Look to the Light of eternal life. The Lord is our way. Just as we are told in Jeremiah chapter 6: "***Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.***" So where are you going?

As believers we are going to heaven, because the Lord has shown us the way; and the Lord is our way, our truth and our life eternal.

Amen.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen.