



**John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled...**

Many times we have focused on the thoughts of Christ prior to His walk up Calvary's hill and His impending Crucifixion, and rightfully so. However, it is also worth looking at the thoughts of the Apostles during that same period. Even though the Lord Jesus Christ was about to suffer the penalty of our sins by laying down His life on the cruel cross, He was still thinking about the welfare of individuals (His children). In this case, it was His Apostles in particular and all of His children in general.

The Apostles did not fully understand the difficulties that lay not only before Christ, but also before them as His followers. This makes the passage in John 14:1 even more precious, **"Let not your heart be troubled..."** Jesus was thinking of what they would be facing, even in the midst of knowing the full extent of being nailed to a cross.

What could possibly be the the concerns of these men who had been with Him for some 3 1/2 years? There are several things which caused great concern among them to bring about the never to be forgotten statement of, **"Let not your heart be troubled."**

1. - The Lord had told them several times that He would be delivered up to the chief priests and elders and scribes and that He would be put to death. He even told them He would **"be raised again the third day"** (Matthew 16:21). Yet, they still did not fully understand or grasp the reality of it. It is hard to imagine that Peter would rebuke the Lord for what He had said would come to pass (Matthew 16:22). We find then that the very thought of the death of their Master was highly troubling to them.
2. - Next, the Lord told them during the Passover supper that one of them would betray Him. **"When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me"** (John 13:21). It troubled them so that they doubted of whom he was speaking of. Peter entreated the Lord of **"whom he**

**spake**” and John came out and asked Him plainly, **“Lord, who is it”** (John 13:25).

3. - And, last - but not necessarily least, Peter was singled out in front of all the Apostles and told that he would deny Him; not once, not twice, but three times in a row (John 13:38). Peter was not able to grasp the reality of what Christ was telling him at the time as he (Peter) felt assured that he would go wherever the Lord went and would even **“...lay down my life for thy sake”** (John 13:37). Reminds me of our own best intentions which we are unable to fulfill as we should.

These are just a few of the things that were laying heavy on the minds of the Apostles. But, if anyone could and did understand what they were facing, it was the One who was facing the ultimate of all situations that man could ever face - His own Crucifixion!

Likewise, these troubles represent many of the tribulations and afflictions to be experienced by the disciples of Christ, and all of God’s children.

Jesus understood! No wonder He declared of a truth, **“Let not your heart be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me.”** He knew what they did not yet comprehend. He was coming back! No wonder we should **“sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.”** **“Think About IT!”**