

“When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.” John 14:3 NLT

“And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.” John 14:3 NKJV

“And when everything is ready, I will come back and take you to myself so that you will be where I am.” John 14:3 TPT

1) Connection

- a) Brief synopsis of the three verses, John 14:1-3.

Yeshua told His disciples not to be troubled, but to believe in God, and also in Him. He knew our hearts would be troubled not only then, but throughout the rest of history. He was giving us the answer to combating our troubled heart, to trust in His Father and Him! Steve brought up a good point. We’ve had 2,000 years of believing in Jesus while the disciples only had 3 ½ years. That fascinates me, 3 ½ years with Yeshua, then and in the future during tribulation. Then He told them about His Father’s mansion having many rooms, and why else would he have told them if He wasn’t going there to prepare a place for them. I like how Asa brought up that all believing Jews were waiting for the Messiah to restore the Kingdom of Israel on earth, but it was in heaven, which leads us to our verse today. If He went there to prepare a place for us, then He is coming back to gather us so we can be with Him forever.

- b) This was Yeshua talking with His disciples the day before Passover, His last supper. He was exhorting them to transform their thinking from the temporary worries of this world to the eternal rewards in heaven with Him.
- c) Yeshua was going away from His disciples, and the world, to prepare a house for them. His leaving would enable them, as well as us, to be with Him forever.
- d) He told them several times that He was leaving to a place where they could not follow Him. He was trying to prepare them to learn to be without Him for a time.

³⁶*“Simon Peter asked, ‘Lord, where are you going?’ And Jesus replied, ‘You can’t go with me now, but you will follow me later.’ John 13:36*

So now I’d like to breakdown this verse, John 14:3.

2) When everything is ready.

- a) He went to prepare a place in His Father’s house, which is the New Jerusalem.
- b) Katartizo (2675) - The Greek word for prepare - To complete thoroughly, i.e. repair or adjust – make perfect, perfectly join together, prepare, restore. To make perfect is just how Jesus would have done it, since He is perfect like His Father.
- c) Habitation place – this speaks to the place in which we will live, that Yeshua prepared for us when He left us the first time. It’s the New Jerusalem. Åsa spoke of the new Jerusalem in her sermon. How big it will be! It will be able to hold billions of people. It will be the Father’s throne dwelling on earth with His people. God will tabernacle or live with humans on earth, allowing them to enjoy face-to-face fellowship, as proven in Revelation 22:4
- d) New Jerusalem –

¹*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among His people! He will live with them, and they will be His people. God Himself will be with them. ⁴He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.” Rev 21:1-4*

3) I will come and get you.

- a) He promises to come back for us. Who is Yeshua coming back for? All who the Father has given Him.

³⁷ However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. ³⁹ And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day." John 6:37-40

- b) This promise is to the disciples and then to us, the foreigners, because we're grafted in. One might think of us as the foreigners that were mentioned in the Old Testament when God was giving the Israelites instructions on how to serve Him.

⁶I will also bless the foreigners who commit themselves to the LORD, who serve him and love his name, who worship him and do not desecrate the Sabbath day of rest, and who hold fast to my covenant. ⁷I will bring them to my holy mountain of Jerusalem and will fill them with joy in my house of prayer. I will accept their burnt offerings and sacrifices, because my Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations. ⁸ For the Sovereign LORD, who brings back the outcasts of Israel, says: I will bring others, too, besides my people Israel. Isaiah 56:6-8

¹But the LORD will have mercy on the descendants of Jacob. He will choose Israel as his special people once again. He will bring them back to settle once again in their own land. And people from many different nations will come and join them there and unite with the people of Israel. Isaiah 14:1

- c) The elect are the chosen, children of God, and the objects of His love. We can be a part of that by our faith in Yeshua and His death on the cross. We have a personal responsibility in this. I find it fascinating that God uses others that don't know him to bless His chosen people. He used Cyrus, the king of Persia. "And why have I called you for this work? Why did I call you by name when you did not know me? It is for the sake of Jacob my servant, Israel my chosen one." Isaiah 45:4

I feel there were people who worked at the hotel that Kimberly and I stayed at in Jerusalem that don't believe in Our Father, who were a blessing to the many Jews who stayed there during Sukkot. We, too, feel we were blessed by the staff at the hotel, and within Israel. The Israelites are elected by birthright. I know Israelites are His chosen people but they still need Yeshua. And it's not enough that we just have faith in Yeshua. We don't get free passes. We're all judged according to our faith and works.

"Because election is the root of all blessings, the spring of every mercy that the soul receives. If election be taken away, everything is taken away, for those who have any spiritual blessing are they who have all spiritual blessings "according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world" Arthur W. Pink, The Doctrine of Election

³All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. Ephesians 1:3-4

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. James 2:14-17

- d) Jewish wedding – I have heard through messages, and believe, that Yeshua's return compares to how a young Jewish man would leave and prepare a place for his bride, and wait until his father tells him it's time. How magnificent that Yeshua would be the obedient Son to wait until His Father tells Him it's time! I also like how John 14:3 ties to Revelation 21:2. Yes, both books were written by the same writer, but the vision he gives is powerful! The beauty of that moment when the new Jerusalem comes down from heaven, adorned like a beautiful bride!

- e) When? No one knows the hour, only our Father in heaven. But we can know the season. Think about when we know who the abomination of desolation is and begin the tribulation. We then will have a better idea about when Yeshua will return. We can meditate on the fact that not only can we be steadfast because Yeshua is coming, but we must remain steadfast during this time!

²⁴ “At that time, after the anguish of those days, the sun will be darkened, the moon will give no light, ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken ²⁶ Then everyone will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds with great power and glory ²⁷ And he will send out his angels to gather his chosen ones from all over the world—from the farthest ends of the earth and heaven. ²⁸ “Now learn a lesson from the fig tree. When its branches bud and its leaves begin to sprout, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ In the same way, when you see all these things taking place, you can know that his return is very near, right at the door. ³⁰ I tell you the truth, this generation will not pass from the scene before all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear. ³² “However, no one knows the day or hour when these things will happen, not even the angels in heaven or the Son himself. Only the Father knows. ³³ And since you don’t know when that time will come, be on guard! Stay alert! ³⁴ “The coming of the Son of Man can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. When he left home, he gave each of his slaves instructions about the work they were to do, and he told the gatekeeper to watch for his return. ³⁵ You, too, must keep watch! For you don’t know when the master of the household will return—in the evening, at midnight, before dawn, or at daybreak. ³⁶ Don’t let him find you sleeping when he arrives without warning. ³⁷ I say to you what I say to everyone: Watch for him!” Mark 13:24-37

- f) I don’t know about others, but I’ve come to terms being considered Yeshua’s bride. If we think it’s not manly, then we believe a lie. I liked how Steve brought up the point that our society feels men aren’t supposed to cry. The fact is, we all are Sons of God and the Bride of Christ.

4) If He went to prepare a place for us, shouldn’t we prepare for Him?

- a) How do we prepare? By fighting the flesh every day! We must first understand, biblically, what the flesh is.

⁵Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. ⁶So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. ⁹ But you are not controlled by your sinful nature. You are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you. (And remember that those who do not have the Spirit of Christ living in them do not belong to him at all.) ¹⁰ And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life^[d] because you have been made right with God. ¹¹ The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Romans 8:5-11

⁹Let those who are wise understand these things. Let those with discernment listen carefully. The paths of the LORD are true and right, and righteous people live by walking in them. But in those paths sinners stumble and fall. Hosea 14:9

¹⁷The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. Galatians 5:17

- b) We have to have faith in these times. Yeshua has said He will come and get us, to bring us to be with Him forever. We have to have faith in God’s plan, which is good and acceptable and perfect. We have to be prepared by recognizing when the abomination of desolation arrives, by being willing to share our testimonies, and trying to draw others to our Lord and Savior.

³¹ “His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary, put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration ³² He will flatter and win over those who have violated the covenant. But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him. ³³ “Wise leaders will give instruction to many, but these teachers will die by fire and sword, or they will be jailed and robbed. ³⁴ During these persecutions, little help will arrive, and many who join them will not be sincere. ³⁵ And some of the wise will fall victim to persecution. In this way, they

will be refined and cleansed and made pure until the time of the end, for the appointed time is still to come. Daniel 11:31-35

- c) Feasts, Fasts, & Faith (Pt. 2) – near the end, Rabbi Hershberg exhorts us to, “*Keep unity in the Spirit. God is sending back His Son for one bride.*” He is coming back for a spotless bride!
 - d) The whole armor of God –
¹⁰ A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. ¹² For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore, put on every piece of God’s armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. ¹⁴ Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God’s righteousness. ¹⁵ For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. ¹⁶ In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. ¹⁷ Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Ephesians 6:10-17
 - e) God’s Battle Plan for the mind – wisdom; revamp prayer; praise time with God; time in the Word.
 - f) Tefilah – Hebrew word for “pray”.
Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. Ephesians 6:18
 - g) “*The first time [Christ] came to slay sin in men. The second time He will come to slay men in sin.*”
Arthur W. Pink
- 5) **That where He is, we will be with Him always.** Only God and Yeshua can make this claim. No human can make a claim to be with someone forever.
²⁰Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:20
- 6) **Application**
- a) How does Yeshua coming back make me feel? I feel hopeful, with a sense of peace because I know that His coming back will mean the fruition of the Father’s plans.
*⁶Surely Your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever. Ps 23:6 **Note: Let us not forget that He pursues us, too!!***
 - b) Promise of a magnificent time spent in eternity. This promise should blow us away!
¹⁸So I advise you to buy gold from Me-gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from Me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see. ¹⁹I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. ²⁰Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. ²¹Those who are victorious will sit with Me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with My Father on His throne. Revelation 3:18-21
 - c) Isaiah 35 – The chapter speaks to a hope for restoration. It tells of God’s returning and how joyful that will be. We know our God and Yeshua are the same. The thought of Yeshua’s return should make us yearn to prepare to be with Him!
 - d) The idea of Him returning is stabilizing and sanctifying.
²Dear friends, we are already God’s children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. ³And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:2-3
 - e) His returning is Him telling us we are not forgotten. We can take comfort in this fact. That we are always in His heart!