



The DAILY JESUS NEWS #290
Thursday... Day of Instruction and Arrest:
Jesus Delivers His “Farewell Discourse”

Jesus Gives His Own Peace to His Disciples
JN 14.27-31; 16.33; LK 22.39 (Parallel Texts: MT 26.30; MK 14.26)

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27 “I am leaving my kind of peace with you; my peace I am giving to you. I am not giving to you as the world gives. I command you to stop letting your hearts be troubled, and stop being afraid.

16.33 “I have spoken these things to you so that you may continue to have peace in me. In this world you will continue to experience trouble and difficulty. But I command you to always be courageous, for I have permanently overcome the world.

28 “You heard me say, ‘I am going away and I am coming back to you.’ If you were loving me right now, you would be glad that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. 29 I have told you now before it happens, so that when it does happen, you will believe.

30 “I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me, 31 but he comes so that the world may learn that I always love the Father, and so I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.

“Come now; let us leave.”

^{M,MT}When they had sung a hymn, ^LJesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him.

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NOTE: We use superscript identification of the source gospel in "blended texts" as follows: Matthew = ^{MT}, Mark = ^M, Luke = ^L, John = ^J, Acts = ^A. This “superscript ID” is inserted at the beginning of the quoted text, identifying that Bible book until a different superscript appears. In addition, *red italics identify the words of Jesus*. Old Testament quotations are CAPITALIZED

	CONTEXT DIGEST
Location	An Upper Room in Jerusalem
Timeline	Early April (Month 39)
Jesus' Life Context	Stage VIII: Passion Week
	D. Thursday: Day of Instruction and Arrest
	Jesus Delivers His “Farewell Discourse”

Title	Jesus Gives His Own Peace to His Disciples
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COMMENT:

In the previous reading Jesus promised the indwelling ministry of the Holy Spirit to everyone who believes in him. It is no accident that he next promised his own kind of peace to his disciples. In the Farewell Discourse Jesus specifically emphasized the love, joy and peace that are the natural fruit of sustained intimacy with him. In today's reading Jesus prescribed and promised his peace. We have included Jn 16.33--the other major promise of peace in this discourse--in today's reading because it is the companion promise of 14.27, and best fits into this context.

Jesus qualified his promise and gift of peace by saying, **"I am not giving to you as the world gives."** How does the world give? It regularly promises what it cannot actually deliver. What the world gives is only temporary, and it always comes with strings attached. More than anything else, what the world gives is based upon circumstances that no one can control, so it is fickle and fleeting.

On the other hand, Jesus said that one thing that is certain is that we will continually experience trouble and distress in this world. This world's peace is really no peace at all--just temporary seasons of quietness in our circumstances, that cannot be sustained.

In contrast, Jesus spoke of giving us **"my kind of peace."** This is Trinity-peace, something that is part of God's way of living, and Being. It is "shalom" in the Old Testament--that sense of cumulative safety and well-being that comes from knowing the God has made us whole--we are complete in him. Jesus said several things in this passage about his kind of peace. We will note four things.

1. Jesus' kind of peace has **"overcome the world"** (16.33). We might say it has been thoroughly stress-tested. Jesus used the perfect tense to describe the way he overcame. In other words, he overcame in a manner that caused the results of his victory to permanently remain in effect, like eradicating an illness that never can return. This means we gain all the benefits of his work of overcoming, too.

Here are some of the ways Jesus **"overcame the world."** Jesus faced every temptation, wile of the devil, evil, and suffering this universe contains. He overcame it all--nothing caused him to lose his peace.

Furthermore, because Jesus overcame everything he faced, the devil had no hold on him at all--Jesus remained pristine and pure in the very holiness of God (14.30).

Beyond that, Jesus overcame because he loved the Father perfectly, and therefore obeyed him totally (14.31). Peace was a product of Trinity-love for Jesus.

Finally, the power of Jesus' kind of peace was evident in the Farewell Discourse itself, for he was filled with love, joy and peace to the point of giving it away--just hours before he was going to face the indescribable suffering of the cross. Jesus' kind of peace had truly overcome the world.

2. Jesus commanded his disciples--including us--to live in his peace. Twice in the Farewell Discourse he repeated these words (14.1, 27): **"I command you to stop letting your hearts be troubled."** On the positive side, he also said: **"I command you be courageous."** Peace is the choice to live in Jesus' power and resources, and the faith to believe HE is in control everything--all the time.

3. Jesus also promised his peace to us. He expects us to act on his promise by faith, believing that we have already received what he has already given us. Remember, he said: **"I am leaving my kind of peace with you; my peace I am giving you."**

4. Finally, Jesus tied his peace to the knowledge that he has told us everything we need to know in advance, so that when we see things turning out just like he said, our peace is fortified (14.29). The longer we experience the power of Jesus Word, the greater our peace will grow. As the Psalmist testified: *"Those who love your Law (Word) have great peace; nothing can make them stumble."* Ps. 119.165

Peace is a natural byproduct of close fellowship with Jesus. HE is our peace, in himself. When we are in the right kind of relationship with him we have his own, supernatural sense of safety and wholeness in God, that has nothing to do with our circumstances, and everything to do with him. The world did not give it to us, so the world cannot take it away. But, people in the world would love to have this peace!

APPLICATION:

Peace is a true gift from Jesus that cannot be counterfeited or imitated. It surpasses our understanding. It is a priceless enhancement to the quality of every moment we live, and it is free!

It is very important to Jesus that we live in his peace. He created us to live securely and confidently in a spiritual, inner environment characterized by God's love, joy, and peace.

What do you need to let go of, to let Jesus' peace come into you?

How will you obey Jesus' command to be courageous regarding his peace?