**John 14:27-31 “Peace in a World Gone Mad”**

***Introduction:*** In today's fast-paced and often tumultuous world, we are constantly searching for peace. Our society is filled with anxiety, conflict, and uncertainty. Many turn to temporary escapes, such as vacations or possessions, hoping to find lasting relief. However, true peace is not a result of external circumstances; it is a state of the heart and mind, rooted in our relationship with Jesus Christ. In John 14:27-31, Jesus offers His disciples, and us, a peace that surpasses all human understanding and remains steadfast even in chaos.

**I. The Source of Peace (v.27)**

***Observation:*** Jesus declares that He provides a distinct peace, different from what the world offers.

 ***Interpretation:*** This peace is both a legacy and a gift. It is not merely the absence of conflict but a fullness and harmony with God, others, and oneself described as "shalom" in Hebrew thought.

 ***Application:*** To experience this peace, we need to be in a right relationship with Christ. It demands a departure from worldly pursuits for peace and the embrace of Jesus' promise and presence.

**Study Questions:**

**1.** How does the world's peace differ from the peace that Jesus offers?

**2.** What does it mean to receive peace as a gift rather than something we achieve?

**3.** In what ways can we actively rest in Christ’s peace even when our circumstances are uncertain?

**II. The Expectation of Peace (vv.28-29)**

***Observation:*** Jesus tells His disciples to rejoice in His departure, as it signifies His return to the Father and fulfillment of God's greater plan.

 ***Interpretation:*** The disciples struggled with understanding the necessity of Jesus' departure, not realizing it would bring the Holy Spirit and the assurance of His return.

 ***Application:*** Believers must live with the expectation of Christ's return, finding peace in His promises and hope in the future.

**Study Questions:**

**1.** Why should Jesus’ departure have been a source of joy for the disciples?

**2.** How does Jesus’ return to the Father reveal the success of His mission?

**3.** What does it look like to live with peace and hope rooted in Christ’s promises rather than present circumstances?

**III. The Victory of Peace (vv.30-31)**

***Observation:*** Jesus acknowledges that Satan is coming through Judas, the Jewish leaders, and the Roman soldiers who would arrest Him, but He asserts that the enemy has no claim over Him.

 ***Interpretation:*** Jesus willingly faced the cross, securing victory over sin and death. His peace is not merely a cessation of conflict, but a victorious triumph accomplished through the cross and resurrection.

 ***Application:*** Christians live in the peace of Christ’s victory, ceasing to strive in their own strength and instead resting in His finished work.

**Study Questions:**

**1.** How does Jesus’ declaration “He has no claim on me” affirm His victory?

**2.** In what ways does Jesus’ obedience to the Father demonstrate true peace and power?

**3.** How can we live from Christ’s victory rather than striving for our own?

**Application for the Week:**

**1.** Reflect on what kind of peace you’ve been pursuing.

**2.** Ask the Holy Spirit to help you rejoice in what you can’t yet fully understand.

**3.** Confess where you’ve been trying to win the battle in your own strength.

**4.** Practice peace by obeying Jesus this week, especially when it’s hard.

**5.** Take time each day to thank Jesus for the victory He secured.