



A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. . . . I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also." —John 14:1,3

When David was running for his life, God provided a loving and supportive friend: King Saul's son, Jonathan. It was an unlikely friendship, because Jonathan would have been the natural successor to his father, yet he knew that David had been chosen by God to be the king of Israel. Instead of feeling jealous, Jonathan loved David, and they became best friends. Jonathan seemed certain that David would be king one day and asked him to preserve his descendants when he did (1 Samuel 20:15–17). And so, this covenant and promise was secured between these two unlikely friends. When David became king over all of Israel, just as Jonathan had predicted, he kept his promise (2 Samuel 9:1–13). David did not exterminate Jonathan's descendants, as was the custom of the time; a son of Jonathan, Mephibosheth, who was crippled in both feet, was brought to David, and from then on Mephibosheth ate at the king's table regularly as one of David's sons.

In biblical history, God has always been faithful to His promises. He is the ultimate promise keeper. Jesus has told us the end of the covenant story: He wins! And He is coming back for us, that we may eat at His table eternally. When His disciples had received incomprehensibly bad news (John 13:33, 36), Jesus reassured them by directing their thoughts to the end of the story. The imperative "Do not let your heart be troubled" (John 14:1) could be translated as "Stop being distressed." They were anxious, and Jesus gave them the reason not to be. He was going ahead of them, opening the path, and preparing their home. Even though they would be going through some troublesome days, the remedy for their downcast souls was, and continues to be, to believe in His promise. Jesus reassured them that His Presence would continue with them for eternity! He said: "that where I am, there you may be also" (verse 3). We should focus on the end of the story: Jesus wins! And we are, and will be, with Him forever, just as He promised!