

Hugo Bouter

In that day

"In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."

John 14:20

The new situation that came about through Christ's going back to the Father opened up new possibilities and new prospects for His own. Their situation would not get worse "in that day" (John 14:16-31). For we have here some rich promises and blessings:

1. He would prepare a place for them in the Father's house with its many mansions, then He would come again and receive them to Himself (John 14:2-3). This is the glorious promise of His coming again for His own (cf. 1 Thess. 4).
2. Meanwhile, they would have direct access to the Father as His children and could pray to the Father in the Name of Jesus (John 14:13; 15:16; 16:23-24). Or as the letter to the Hebrews puts it, they would have boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus (Heb. 10:19).
3. They would also be aware of their new, and heavenly position in Christ. They would see the exalted Lord Himself by faith and because of their union with Him by the power of the Spirit, Who would abide with them forever (John 14:19-20). Or as the letter to the Hebrews expresses it, We see Jesus crowned with glory and honor (Heb. 2:9).

These rich provisions the Lord would make available for all His own, and He could grant them on the basis of His accomplished work and by the presence of the Helper, the Spirit of truth.

Eight blessings

A key text is the passage in John 14:18-21. Here we find no less than eight blessings, which the Lord gives us to enjoy in this 'day', which has lasted for some two thousand years now. These are the following aspects of the Christian position:

1. He has not left us alone, as unattended orphans.
 2. "I will come to you". By the coming of the Comforter we experience Christ's blessed nearness.
 3. "You will see Me". The world no longer sees Christ, but we behold Him with the eye of faith and through the activity of the Word and the Spirit.
 4. Because He lives, we will live also. As the Risen One, He now lives within us by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is the supporting ground of our life as Christians.
 5. We also know now that He is "in the Father". The Father has taken Him up into glory and He is one with Him in power and glory. He now lives with and to God (Rom. 6:10).
 6. We also understand that we are "in Him," and are made one with our glorified Lord in His new, heavenly position. We learn this union from the New Testament letters.
 7. We know, moreover, that He dwells in us by His Spirit: "and I in you". This is the blessing of the Spirit's abiding indwelling. The Spirit of truth guides us into all truth and even tells us things to come (John 16:13). The Holy Spirit does not seek His own glory, but "He will glorify Me". He declares to us the riches of Christ and of the Father (John 16:14-15).
 8. In this way the Lord manifests Himself to us, and both the Father and the Son can make Their home with us down here (John 14:21, 23).
-

