

"We love him....first loved us." 1 John 4. 19.

2. *Loved of my Father.* v. 21.

"The Father....loveth you." John 16. 27.

3. *I will love him.* v. 21.

"Christ....dwell in your hearts." Eph. 3. 17.

VI. THE COMFORT OF KNOWLEDGE.

1. *Shall teach you all.* v. 26.

"Guide you into all truth." John 16. 13.

2. *Things to your remembrance.* v. 26.

"Know all things." 1 John 2. 20.

VII. THE COMFORT OF PEACE.

Peace I leave with you. v. 27.

"The peace of God." Phil. 4. 7.

Thoughts for Young People.

Our Benefits from Christ's Departure.

1. By the departure of Christ from earth and his dwelling in heaven we have an object of faith. We can see him in faith's insight, and then have our faith strengthened.

2. By Christ's departure we are led to look up to heaven. Were he with us we should be content with earth; but now our thoughts are drawn toward the better country.

3. By Christ's departure we are led to hope for his return. For nineteen centuries the cry of the Church has been, "Come, Lord Jesus; come quickly."

4. By Christ's departure we are put into the possession of the Spirit of truth, the Comforter, the Holy Ghost, who is to guide us and teach us.

5. By Christ's departure from the flesh we are to be put into possession of the living, personal Saviour in our hearts.

6. By Christ's departure we have secured peace—peace that flows like a river.

Lesson Word-Pictures.

The full, rich, echoing notes of the passover-psalm have ascended around that table where the Saviour is the gracious host and the disciples are the guests. The bitter herbs, the unleavened bread, the paschal cup have been received. The simple memorial feast of the communion has been inaugurated. And yet they still linger at the table, while the night deepens without. The Saviour has something special he would say, something tender, comforting, enduring. It is in the shadow of a great, uneasy, undefined fear that they listen; the shadow of Calvary coming nearer, nearer. He is telling them, though, not to be troubled. He is pointing out the Father's house. How he lights up the windows, brightens the door, points out the many rooms of mercy. "How good it will be to get there to a chamber of rest," thinks some disciple who has gone up and down the land, foot-sore and weary, yet loyally following the Master. But what else does he

say? They bend forward to listen: "I go to prepare a place for you." How like his great, loving heart to go before and make ready, to stand waiting in the door, to bring water for the feet, and how like himself to cool and wash those feet that have come up by the weary way of the valley! "I go to prepare," he says. Do they understand that in this going ahead Gethsemane, the judgment-hall, Calvary, are stages in the dark and dreadful journey? But what does he add? "I will come again and receive you unto myself." He will not stand waiting in the door simply, but he will come all the way through the valley to take them by the hand and lead his people home. There is a light springing up and brightening in their eyes. He will come again! It is no longer night; the day breaks and floods every window. The mournful cry of the wind has gone down; the notes of a thousand harps rise and roll entrancingly about them. Their hearts swell with love to him, their great, adorable Redeemer.

But, if they love him, he says, let them keep his commandments. Their thoughts go back to the precepts on the mount, to the teachings by the way-side, to the instructions in the temple, where crowds hung in praise and wonder on his lips, to the communings of many quiet, retired hours, as of friend with friend.

But some disciple may be thinking how hard it will be to keep every precept without the strength of his presence! The shadows come back. What does he say?

Repeat it, O Master! Say again those words of large promise. Tenderly tell of the Comforter, the abiding One, the unseen Friend, never recognized by the world, and yet heard as a voice and felt as a gentle presence in every loving breast.

Yes, the Saviour's loving ones shall be loved of him, and loved of the Father, too, and unto such will the Saviour manifest himself. Hark! Somebody is speaking. It is Judas, not the traitor, for he is out in the midst of his black plottings.

Every body is wondering what that questioning disciple may say. "How can the Saviour manifest himself to these and not to the world?"

They look to catch up eagerly every word of the Master. And now there opens before them a Father's house upon the earth, even the loving heart of every disciple, where Jesus enters in, where the Father abides, where the Holy Ghost brings all things to remembrance. O happy heart with such divine guests! O atmosphere of rest forever breathed there! Night and Gethsemane and Calvary may be without, but within there is light, there is peace, there is heaven.

By Way of Illustration.

"Let not your heart be troubled." The believer who accepts Christ's promises more readily than the best government bonds, and who realizes that