Two Concluding Responses Disciples Should Have to the Death and Departure of Christ (John 14:27-31)

1. Christ explains the peace and joy which disciples should have in response to His departure (vv.27-28)
   1. Christ’s promise of peace should remove the trouble and fear from the hearts of His disciples (v.27; cf. 14:1)
      1. The bequeathal of Christ’s peace (see John 20:19, 21)
         1. His perfect relationship with the Father, now given to believers
         2. His posture of confidence and fearlessness amidst the opposition of the world, now possible for believers
         3. His provision of the Kingdom in this age, now experienced by believers (Isa. 9:6-7; 54:13; Ezek. 37:26-27)
      2. The contrast with the world’s peace
         1. The world’s peace comes through military might; Christ’s comes *through His sacrificial death*
         2. The world’s peace is superficial; Christ’s peace *is eternally significant*
         3. The world’s peace is temporary; Christ’s peace *is eternal*
   2. Christ’s departure should fill the hearts of His disciples with joy for His sake (v.28)
      1. The condition of this joy (“If you loved me”)
      2. The content of this joy (“that I am going to the Father”)
      3. The cause for this joy (“for the Father is greater than I”) (cf. John 1:1; 1:18; 5:16-18; 5:19ff; 8:58; 10:30; 12:27-28; 17:1; 20:28)

*“If they had loved Jesus, they would have perceived that his departure to his own ‘home’ was his gain and rejoiced with him at the prospect. As it is, their grief is an index of their self-centeredness.” (Carson)*

1. Christ explains the faith in Him which disciples should have in response to His death (vv.29-31)
   1. Through His teaching the disciples beforehand (v.29)
   2. Through His interpretation of the events of His death (vv.30-31)
      1. The immediate cause of Christ’s death (v.30)
         1. The onslaught of the Devil (v.30a; John 8:44; 13:2; 1 John 3:8; 5:19)
         2. The inability of the Devil to be victorious over Christ (v.30b; John 12:31; Rev. 12:10)
      2. The ultimate reason for Christ’s death (v.31; cf. John 10:18; 12:27-28)