

"OUR LORD'S FAREWELL"**Introduction**

1. The final section of this Address
2. Let us learn the art of spiritual talk
3. Our Lord's life is a perfect example of rich spiritual conversation

1. HERE WE HAVE PRECIOUS TEACHING ABOUT GOD

- 1) Two mistakes:
 - (i) to speak to God as if there were no Christ
 - (ii) of Christ as if there were no God

DOCTRINE: The mysterious fact of a Trinity
- 2) This doctrine not so clear in OT – "proverbs"
OBSERVE: The NT adds to our knowledge of God
- 3) What we here discover:
 - (i) The Father loves all true believers: v.27
 - (ii) Christ's mission is ordained by the Father: v.28
- 4) Let us correct all false ideas of the Father:
 - (i) the reason why Christ had to come
 - (ii) the nature of justification
 - (iii) the method of reconciliation
 - (iv) our enjoyment of the Beatific Vision

APPLICATION: Let us pray for more such knowledge

2. AS BELIEVERS, WE ARE NOT SO STRONG IN FAITH AS WE MIGHT THINK

- 1) The disciples speak here with confidence: v.29f
OBSERVE: It is a confession of Christ's godhead
- 2) But their confidence was not sound:
 - (i) "Do ye now believe?" (Not enough)

- (ii) They would forsake Him
OBSERVE: Our courage and faith are poor
Q. "What would I do in persecution?"
APPLICATION: We are weaker than we realise.

- 3) **Note**: Christ does not cast His people off in their failures:
 - (i) Peter's sad denials
 - (ii) the fear and flight of all of them
 - (iii) Judas of course was a hypocrite
- 4) We do not know our own hearts:
 - (i) We may yet discover how unstable our profession of faith is.
 - (ii) "When I am weak, then am I strong"
 - (iii) "Let him that thinketh...take heed".

APPLICATION: We hear Christ saying, "Watch and pray...temptation". Do we do so?

3. THERE IS A WONDERFUL CHRISTIAN SECRET HERE: HOW TO HAVE PEACE IN TRIBULATION

- 1) The ending of this Farewell Discourse is sublime: v.33.
Every word is hallowed.
- 2) Let us note:
 - (i) Christ brings no "health and wealth" gospel
 - (ii) The believers must expect trials here
 - (iii) But Christ has conquered all His and our enemies for us
 - (iv) So we are to "be of good cheer"
 - (v) Christ can cheer our hearts in all circumstances
- 3) Look at the examples: Jacob, Joseph, Job, Paul, Peter.
APPLICATION: Lay up these examples in your heart

PSALMS**116: 1 – 7 / 145²: 17 – 21 / 27: 11 - 14****CONCLUSION**

1. Some are "talkers"
2. Christ is our Example as One who does God's will
3. Therefore we may rest in Him.