

John 14v4-7

Jesus has taught his anxious followers that he must go to his Father's house, and then says:

<sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going.'

<sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really know me, you will know<sup>[b]</sup> my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.'

Two things to note for us here, one for today, one tomorrow:

First, see the encouragement for us that the disciples had little knowledge, but their trust in Jesus was enough for their salvation.

There was much at that time that the disciples did not know and would only understand after Jesus' death and resurrection. Thomas sounds a note of despair (v5). Yet Jesus reassures them (v7). They know Him. Not fully, not completely, but they do know Jesus personally. They have chosen to follow him, when many others were scorning Jesus, and so they do know God the Father.

Sometimes we can fear that our lack of knowledge of Christian doctrines somehow disqualifies us from entry into heaven. As though we must sit an exam where we have to get over 75%. But if we know Jesus Christ personally, that is if we trust that he is our only hope, for only he can bring us into heaven, and have called upon him for forgiveness for our sins, then we can be assured. Yes, there is much to benefit our anxious souls by deepening our understanding of God. To read God's word, depend upon him in prayer and join with his people the church (even on Zoom!) will all strengthen our faith, give us greater assurance. These are means of God's grace to us. But let us not despair of our salvation if we are truly clinging to Christ personally. Jesus says if you know him, you know God the Father.

So let us thank God this day for Jesus, the one who will bring us home!