



‘that name’ – John Chapter 16 & 17

‘four brief thoughts and ideas worthy of review’

1/ This outline from W Wiersbe of John 16 is very helpful:

- Spirit-Comforter encourages the Church (15:18–16:4)
- Spirit-Reprover witnesses through the Church (16:5–11)
- Spirit-Teacher guides the Church (16:12–15)
- There Is a principle to Grasp (16:16–22)
- There Is a promise to Believe (16:23–28)
- There Is a position to Claim (16:29–33)

2/ The Snare of John 16:1 - Jesus *“All this I have told you so that you...will not fall away”* (NIV). One cannot miss some complexity of the expression: ‘will not fall away’:

- ...should not **be offended** (taken **unawares** and falter, or be caused to **stumble** and fall away). [I told you to keep you from being **scandalised** and **repelled**.] (AMP)
- ...won’t be **caught by surprise**. (CJB)
- ...won’t **abandon your faith**. (NLT)
- these things to keep you from **giving up**. (ICB)
- ...won’t be **staggered** by all that lies ahead. (TLB)
- ...will not be **led into sin**. (NASB)
- to stop you from being **tripped up**. (NTW)

The word used here relates more to ‘skandaethron’ which is less of a stumbling-block that might trip you up...rather more of a trap – the sort of trap that you least expect.



Examples of this word in scripture includes *1 John 2:10 - Anyone who loves another brother or sister is living in the light and does not cause others to **stumble** (NLT); and John 6:61 - But Jesus, knowing within Himself that His disciples were complaining and protesting and grumbling about it, said to them: Is this a **stumbling block** and an **offense** to you? [Does this **upset** and **displease**, **shock** and **scandalise** you?]* (AMP)

The implication here speaks to those who **profess** a relationship with Jesus but when the suddenness of a snare falls, professors fall away - offended, rather those who **possess** relationship with Jesus and encounter the snare/trap, they in all truthfulness and faith declare – *“who else can we go to but Jesus!”* (John 6:68)

3/ “These things” - It is useful to notice such recurring phrases in John. Here are a few references worth exploring its meaning and implications of ‘these things’ :

3:10, 5:19, 5:34, 8:26, 8:28, 11:11, 12:16, 12:36, 13:17, 14:25, 15:11, 15:17, 15:21, 16:1, 16:3, 16:4, 16:6, 16:25, 16:33, 17:13

4/ The 25 Truly Truly (TT) in the Gospel of John

The “Truly, truly” or “Verily, verily” expressions use the Greek word *amēn*, taken directly from the Hebrew *ā’ mēn*. We tend to say Amen at the end of a prayer, and this is often repeated by others as agreement, relating to the Old Testaments - “so be it.”

What makes these 25 times Jesus says amen amen worthy of exploring is that he says before making a statement or giving a message. Jesus is not saying, “Believe me, this is true.” The implication is that what is about to be said is true because Jesus had firsthand knowledge on the matter. Jesus is saying “I know this to be true...firsthand.” “TT” is a strong and personal claim that the Truth is being shared. The disciples, and now we listening to Jesus’ words, need to carefully ponder these truths as the Holy Spirit continues to teach Truth to us today!

1:51 - TT, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.

3:3 - TT, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.

3:5 - TT, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

3:11 - TT, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony.

5:19 - TT, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner.

5:24 - TT, I say to you, they who hear My word, and believe Him who sent Me, have eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but have passed out of death into life.

5:25 - TT, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

6:26 - TT, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.

6:32 - TT, I say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven.

6:47 - TT, I say to you, they who believe have eternal life.

6:53 - TT, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves.

8:34 - TT, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

8:51 - TT, I say to you, if anyone keeps My word will never see death.

8:58 - TT, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am.

10:1 - TT, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber.

10:7 - TT, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

12:24 - TT, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

13:16 - TT, I say to you, a slave is not greater than his master, nor is one who is sent greater than the one who sent him.

13:20 - TT, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

13:21 - TT, I say to you, that one of you will betray Me. 13:38 - TT, I say to you, a rooster will not crow until you deny Me three times.

14:12 - TT, I say to you, they who believe in Me, the works that I do, they will do also; and greater works than these they will do; because I go to the Father.

16:20 - TT, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy.

16:23 - TT, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you.

21:18 - TT, I say to you, when you were younger, you used to gird yourself and walk wherever you wished; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will gird you, and bring you where you do not wish to go.

[Action: Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal TRUTH to you, as we consider each TT, noting the implications of the TRUTH for our own lives]