

Greater Pleasant Branch Baptist Church

Connect Learn Grow

Wednesday Bible Study- April 20, 2022

Subject: John 14:8-14- Paragraph Analysis Regarding Greater Works

I. Introduction

John 14: 8-14 is considered by Bible scholars to be a paragraph since it contains a distinct section of chapter 14 that includes several themes that are related to the theme of “ Greater Works .”

The themes referenced in chapter 14 include the following:

1. Jesus is God.
2. Faith in Jesus.
3. Works of Jesus.
4. Greater works of the disciples and believers.
5. Praying in the name of Jesus.
6. God and Jesus glorified.

In John chapter 14 Jesus continues to prepare his disciples for his departure by emphasizing his continual care for them. Jesus gave the disciples reasons for hope when he made two remarkable promises:

1. The disciples would do “Greater Works” than he had done.
2. Jesus would answer their prayers made in his name for his glory and the Father’s glory.

In addition to the above promises Jesus had earlier promised in John 14:3 that he would prepare a place for them and gather them to himself so they could abide with him forever. He also promised in John 14:26, John 15:26 and John 16:13-14 to send the Comforter (Holy Spirit) to constantly abide with them.

The themes of John 14:8-14 which includes two promises and the related promises of an eternal dwelling place and the power of the Holy Spirit provide a good basis for considering how believers can do the “ Greater Works” mentioned by Jesus.

II. Key points regarding Greater Works

1. The Greater Works to which Jesus referenced were not greater in power than those he performed but greater in extent. The apostles including Paul reached even the Gentile world with the gospel, they ministered to more people than Jesus, thus they did Greater Works.

2. The power to perform Greater Works was available to the apostles only because he was going to the Father and would send the Holy Spirit to empower them for "Ministry."

III. What are the Greater Works performed by Jesus?

They include the following:

1. Jesus demonstrated love, care and compassion for people.
2. Jesus ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of people.
3. Jesus proclaimed the Good News and taught people the Word of God.
4. Jesus witnessed and testified about God.
5. Jesus disciplined his disciples, the Pharisees and other religious leaders to correct spiritual error.
6. Jesus demonstrated the justice of God.
7. Jesus glorified God through the Word and his Works.

III. Conclusions

1. That believers can do Greater Works than Jesus means that they will reach More People and have Broader Results than Jesus did.

2. Greater Works are possible only through Jesus, only because he has gone to his Father and is sitting at the right hand of the Father. From the throne of power Jesus Empowers, Enables and Equips believers to do Greater Works.

IV. Biblical examples of Greater Works

1. Acts 2:37-41 (3,000 souls are saved and the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved).

2. Acts 4: 23-33 (Great Boldness, Great Power, Great Grace made available to the early church).

3. I Thessalonians 1:5 (Gospel proclaimed by Paul in Word, Power, the Holy Ghost, and much Assurance).