At Home with the Father

John 14:23

"If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him." (John 14:23, NASB)

Earlier in this same chapter, in John 14:1-3, Jesus said that the Father's house has many "dwelling places" and that He will come again and take us to live with Him forever.

But then He says, in v.23, above, that if we love the Father, He will love us and come to us and make His "abode" with us here and now. The NIV translates it as "home". But actually, it's the same Greek word in vv.1 and 23.

The God who will one day return to take us to His home (14:1-3) makes His home with us even now (14:23). Here in this world, God dwells with us, humble and human as we are. He knows us, flaw by flaw, yet He gladly joins His life to ours. We share His love...His peace...His joy. We breathe His breath. He lives in us, and we in Him. His holy life is a growing part of our own.

Our togetherness has a beautiful beginning now and a glorious completion hereafter. Our satisfaction in God and our rest in Him are not limited by time or place. They are not just someday. They are here and now and forever as we simply trust Him.

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