

John 16

Introduction.

I. This evening I would like to invite your attention to the reading of a large portion of John the 16th chapter. This is one of many of Jesus' discourses recorded only in the fourth gospel.

JOH 16:1 "These things I have spoken to you, that you may be kept from stumbling. 2 "They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God.

3 "And these things they will do, because they have not known the Father, or Me. 4 "But these things I have spoken to you, that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. 5 "But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' 6 "But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.

7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you no longer behold Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

14 "He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you.15 "All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it to you.16 "A little while, and you will no longer behold Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me." 17 **Some of His disciples therefore said to one another,**

"What is this thing He is telling us, 'A little while, and you will not behold Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?" 18 And so they were saying, "What is this that He says, 'A

little while'? We do not know what He is talking about." 19 Jesus knew that they wished to question Him, and He said to them, "Are you deliberating together about this, that I said, 'A little while, and you will not behold Me, and

again a little while, and you will see Me"? 20 "Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned to joy. 21 "Whenever a woman is in travail she has sorrow, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she remembers the anguish no more, for joy that a child has been born into the world. 22 "Therefore you too now have sorrow; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one takes your joy away from you. 23 "And in that day you will ask Me no question. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you shall ask the Father for anything, He will give it to you in My name. 24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be made full.

25 "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour is coming when I will speak no more to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father. 26 "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from the Father. 28 "I came forth from the Father, and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again, and going to the Father." 29 **His disciples said, "Lo, now You are speaking plainly, and are not using a figure of speech. 30 "Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God."** 31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 "Behold, an hour is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. 33 "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

II. There are many valuable lessons taught in this passage. We will not try to cover every lesson, but will emphasize a few of the great truths found in it.

I. **Disciples Would Be Persecuted** - Jesus said His disciples would be persecuted.

A. This is not a new concept for the disciples. Jesus had forewarned them of persecution. (Matt. 5:10-12; Jn. 15:20).

B. Jesus indicates here **persecution would come from religious people.**

1. Acts 4, 5

2. Acts 7:54-8:3.

3. Acts 9:1-4; 23:1

C. Jesus forewarns them that they would be persecuted. He does this to keep them from falling away, but later tells them they will scatter and temporarily desert Him.

II. **About To Leave Them** - Jesus Was About To Leave Them.

A. He forewarns them. (Acts 16:5, 10).

B. Later He ascended into heaven before their very eyes. (Acts 1:8-12).

III. **Not Leaving Them Alone** - He Was Not Leaving Them Alone

A. Jesus was sending the Holy Spirit who is called the “Comforter” or “Helper.”

B. **The Holy Spirit is a Person**

1. He is not an “it”.

a. **Personal pronouns**

JOH 16:7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper shall not come to you; but if I go, I will send **Him** to you. 8 "And **He**, when **He** comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgment;

13 "But when **He**, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He** will guide you into all the truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own initiative, but whatever **He** hears, **He** will speak; and **He** will disclose to you what is to come. 14 "**He** shall glorify Me; for **He** shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you

b. **Rom. 15:30; Eph. 4:30**

2. He is not the “Father” or the “Son.”

a. Over and over again in this chapter Jesus clearly distinguishes between Himself, and the Father, and the Holy Spirit. They are three Personalities.

b. Matt. 3:16, 17; 28:19, 20.

C. **What the Holy Spirit would do.**

1. He would convict. **Sin - Righteousness - Judgment to come** (Jn. 16:8).

2. He would guide the apostles into “all truth.” (Jn. 16:13).

a. Truth is knowable.

1) Some then and now sneer at truth.

2) Jesus taught truth is knowable and precious. (Jn. 8:32).

b. The apostles were given complete revelation. (Jn. 14:26; 1 Tim. 3:16, 17; Acts 20:27).

3. He would give them power. (Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2:4; 2:43).

Conclusion.

I. Jesus closes with some very encouraging words. (Jn. 16:33).

A. These words were spoken, by way of anticipation, to the disciples.

1. A short time later Jesus would overcome the world and Satan.

2. He went to the cross and died for us. (Gal. 1:4).

3. Three days later He arose from the tomb as proof He was God's Son and as a pledge of our resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:20-23).

B. Let each of us in Christ live joyously and courageously knowing one day Christ is coming to take us home. (1 Thess. 4:17, 18).

II. To all of you who are out of Christ salvation is yours in Christ Jesus.

A. Come and surrender your life to the One who has the words of eternal life and died that you might be saved. Once you have been baptized the precious blood of Jesus will wash away all your sins.

B. Come as we stand and sing.

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