

Lesson 46 John 16:16-33 Jesus , His Disciples, and the Coming Cross

Pray: Before you begin lift your heart to God and ask for the Spirit's help as you read the passage and work through these questions in His divine presence and you certainly will be given understanding.

Key Words:

Turn: Strong's G1096 "ginomai" to change or transition. In John 16:20 it is used in the future tense and means "will become"

Joy: Strong's G5479 "chara" calm delight, gladness, exultation or great joy.
Zodhiates "chara" Exultation or great joy. This is John's intended meaning in John 16:20-22

Overcome: Strong's G3528 "nikao" to subdue, conquer, overcome, prevail, get the victory. In John 16:33 this verb is in the perfect tense in Greek. This tense indicates an action that was completed in the past but has continuing results.

Background:

Birth Pangs : Old Testament prophets often used birth pangs as an image of suffering.

Jesus ends His discourse with the disciples by focusing on His death on the cross and His resurrection.

Read John 16:16-33

1. How does Jesus explain His death and resurrection to the disciples? (16:16-17)

2. How does Jesus say the "world" will react to His death and resurrection? In contrast to the world's reaction, how will the disciples react? (16:20)

3. In 16:21 Jesus, the master teacher, gives the example of a woman giving birth to illustrate His death and resurrection. Compare Jesus' illustration with what you know about Jesus' death on the cross followed by His resurrection.

Application: From Jesus' death and resurrection we know that Jesus can turn our suffering to joy. How can this be a comfort when you are suffering, especially for the sake of His kingdom? Can you share a time when your suffering turned to joy?

4. Jesus death and resurrection will open up a new relationship between the disciples and the Father. What can you learn about that relationship in verses 16:23-27? Describe it in terms of the Father's part of the relationship and also the disciples part.

Application: How does knowing that Jesus' death reconciled us to the Father, affect the way you personally approach the Father in prayer?

5. In John 16:28 Jesus gives the disciples and us a description of His ministry to mankind in one sentence. Elaborate on that verse and explain Jesus' ministry in your own words?

6. In 16:32 and 33 John records the last words of Jesus' discourse. What does he tell them in v. 32 will soon happen to them?

7. In the next few days the disciples will be facing "the tribulation of the world" as they see their Lord die a criminal's death. What command does Jesus give them (16:33) and what promise does He leave them with?

Application: This command and promise is for us too. How can they make a difference in whatever trial you are now experiencing?