

## Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

### Last Words: I Have Overcome

Last time... "It is expedient for you that I go away."

3<sup>rd</sup> time Jesus taught of the Spirit of Truth's role in God's on-going work in the world

This time... "I have overcome the world."

The walk to the Garden of Gethsemane continues

We are in John 16

v16-18 A little while...not see Me...little while...shall see Me:

Jesus says something, perhaps vaguely, that the 11 do not understand

Why do they not understand?

Why are they confused?

Were they not told very pointedly by Jesus on several occasions how His ministry was going to end when they got to Jerusalem for Passover?

- At Caesarea Philippi

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day (Matt 16:21)

- After the Transfiguration

And while they abode in Galilee, Jesus said unto them, **The Son of man shall be betrayed into the hands of men: And they shall kill him, and the third day he shall be raised again.** And they were exceeding sorry, (Matt 17:22-23)

- On the way to Jerusalem for the last time

**Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again** (Matt 20:18-19)

Has Jesus not taught parables about

- a householder that planted a vineyard and went into a far country for a long time, whose son was killed by the wicked husbandmen? (Matt 21:33-39)
- a nobleman going away to a far country for a long time to receive a kingdom and to return, whose citizens hated him and would not have him reign over them and whose servants were to occupy until He came? (Luke 19:11-28)

We need to consider several things

1. This is pre-John 14:26
2. They 11 are very sorrowful and under great duress this night
  - a. Jesus is leaving
  - b. One of them is going to betray Him; the unthinkable end starts from within!
  - c. Peter is going to deny Him 3 times before the sun comes up
3. The confusion about what Jesus says is lost in translation from Greek to English

In a little while you shall not “see” Me...

- ”look on, discern”
- mechanical sight

Again, a little while and you shall “see” Me...

- ”to gaze at something remarkable”
  - more intense inspection than the first “see”
- “to allow oneself to be seen”, “to appear”
  - Luke 1:11 an angel appeared before Zacharias
  - Luke 3:6 John: all flesh shall see the salvation of God
  - John 1:50-51 the calling of Nathanael
  - Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God
  - Matt 17:3 Moses and Elijah appeared
  - John 11:40 If you would believe you would see the glory of God
  - Matt 24:30 see the Son of Man coming in the clouds
  - John 20:19 behind locked doors, they would “see”, He would “appear”

You see/discern Me now but in a little while you will not see Me...for 3 days  
(while I am in the grave)

In a little while you will see/gaze at Me...remarkably different, radically changed  
(after Resurrection and for 40 days, as it will turn out)

(Differently) because I go to My Father...His glorious resurrected body

1 Cor 15:35, 45-57 heavenly

2 Cor 5:1 building of God, not made with hands, eternal

The 11 disciples heard Jesus clearly, since they repeated accurately what He had said, but they did not know what He meant by

- the 2 different Greek words translated into English as “see” (v17)
- how those 2 words relate to going to the Father (v17)
- A little while...a vague reference in time to men who probably wanted to know the precise schedule (v18)

They talk among themselves but do not ask Jesus for clarification

v19-22 your sorrow shall be turned to joy...your joy no man takes from you:  
Jesus, of course, knew they were not tracking with Him and had questions for Him

Without waiting for their questions, He answers...with an illustration,  
albeit not direct, plain speech the disciples are probably wanting

v20 Verily, verily...the repetition is to emphasize the truth to follow

I say unto you...Jesus, heralded as a prophet, never said “Thus saith the Lord”;  
He only said this, declaring that He is the Lord

you shall weep and lament...”A little while and you shall not see Me” is going to  
heart-breaking, gut-wrenching, soul-ripping

but the world shall rejoice...hate wins (John 15:18), or so they will think

Note: the world will rejoice again/afresh in Rev 11:3-13...  
for another 3 day period

you shall be sorrowful...distressed, high anxiety

but your sorrow shall be turned into joy...your sorrow will be re-generated,  
resurrected into joy

Note: and the world’s rejoicing will return to...murderous hatred

(For example)

v21 A woman when she is in travail has sorrow...with birth pangs come distress and  
anxiety and pain

but as soon as she delivered of the child, she remembers no more the anguish...  
immediately upon the birth of her child, the woman forgets the  
anguish/affliction/trouble/tribulation/persecution of labor

for joy that a man (male and female) is born into the world...the anguish is  
re-generated/resurrected into joy by the presence of the child

(applying the illustration to them)

v22 you therefore have sorrow....as if in labor, travailing with birth pangs

but I will see you again...same as the 2<sup>nd</sup> “see” in v16

Jesus will see...”to allow oneself to be seen”, “to appear”

They will see...”to gaze at something remarkable”

and your heart will rejoice...your sorrow shall be turned to joy

your joy no man takes from you...your joy (of eternal life, of being reconciled to God) no man (the world) cannot take from you, even if v2 and Matt 10:28

The joy of the Lord (John 15:11) is relational (being “in Christ”, right with God now and for all eternity), not circumstantial

v23-24 ask Me...ask the Father:

In that day, the day your sorrow is turned into joy and your heart shall rejoice, you will

- not ask Me any questions, not ask Me for anything
- ask the Father in My name and He will give it to you

Luke 11:9-13...the Spirit of Truth, the Helper to continue My work (John 14:12), of Whom Jesus has spoken 3x this night

Until now, the disciples have asked Jesus, that He would ask the Father.

They have not yet prayed to the Father in Jesus’ name.

Henceforth, they will pray to the Father in Jesus’ name, the Father will give, and their joy will be full

v25 I spoken unto you in proverbs...but I shall shew you plainly:

v16 and then v20-22 are “dark” sayings – obscure, cloudy, unclear

But in the appointed time, Jesus will declare plainly of the Father... after His Resurrection, in His glorified body, and for 40 days

v26-27 I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

In that day,

- they will not ask Jesus, but will ask the Father in Jesus’ name
- Jesus will not say to them, “I will ask the Father for you”  
(as He has been doing thus far)

“You no longer need Me to ask the Father for you, you will go personally and directly to the Father.”

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need

Every cleansed and reconciled believer has direct access to the Father in heaven!

Because the Father Himself loves you because you have

- loved Me
- believed that I came from God

John 6:28-29

Faith...believing what God has said in His Word

Note: both “love” = *phileo*, brotherly...relational

v28 from...into...leave...go to:

Jesus succinctly gives the round-trip itinerary for His mission

1<sup>st</sup> Leg

- from the Father
- into the world...enemy territory

2<sup>nd</sup> Leg

- leave the world
- go to the Father...having accomplished what He was sent to do

2 Cor 5:17-18a

Acts 1:1, 4-9

Acts 2:1-4

2 Cor 5:18b-20

v29-30 now speakest thou plainly...now we are sure...we believe:

The disciples respond to what Jesus just said

Now we understand what you said in v16

You are speaking plainly now

Now we are sure You know all things...including the future

We have no more questions for You

We believe that You came from God...heaven, eternity

v31 Do ye now believe:

Does Jesus believe/know that they believe?

Are they fully persuaded?

Rom 4:16-22 Abraham of God's promise

Rom 8:35-39 Paul of nothing can separate us from the love of Christ

2 Tim 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day

Heb 11:13 like Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah

Are they now in keeping with James 1:5-8?

Is this declaration any different than

Mark 14:31 Peter: I will die with You, not deny You!

Jesus knows...

v32 ye shall be scattered...yet I am not alone:

Jesus knows in a matter of just a few hours, the testing of the disciple's  
proclaimed faith in v29-30 will end in...fear and abandonment

Foreknown by the all-knowing God, foretold a little over 500 years  
previously (Zech 13:7) AND just a few hours ago (Matt 26:31)

Their proclaimed faith will fail due to fear, and the 11 will flee every man for  
himself, leaving Jesus alone with His enemies

But the Good Shepherd tells His soon-to-be-scattering sheep that He isn't alone –  
the Father is with Him

Several things about that

1. Jesus did not trust men (John 2:23-25),  
He trusted His Father (Psalms of David being prophetic)...  
the faith of Jesus

2. “with”...a mystery

In John 14:17, “with” = *para*, “alongside”

In John 16:32, “with” = *meta*

Between “away from” and “into”

Less intimate than “in” (John 14:17, John 16:33)

Less close than “union”, “together”

Mystery

Is 59:1-2

2 Cor 5:21a

Matt 27:46

Is 53:1, 10

Rev 13:8

Rev 5:1-6

Father's sacrifice for sin, righteous Servant  
the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the  
foundation of the world

only the Lamb was worthy to open the book  
sealed with seven seals  
(DoL, judgment of the world in  
righteousness)

v33 in Me...in the world...I have overcome the world:  
Jesus sums up His “last words” to the 11 (John 13:31 – 16:33)

These things I have spoken unto you...because they are His friends and God tells  
His friends what He is doing

that in Me...in Christ, our position before a holy God and our place in the world

ye might have peace...you can take a hold of peace/rest/quietness of spirit and  
soul, Jesus’ calm in the midst of every storm

in the world ye shall have tribulation...an assertion, a “promise” that we will have  
the “anguish” of v21 (same Gr word),

Acts 14:22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, *and* exhorting them  
to continue in the faith, and that we must through much  
tribulation enter into the kingdom of God

from which there is only one escape

1 Cor 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common  
to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be  
tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation  
also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*

John 14:27

but be of good cheer...courage, comfort, cheer (James 1:1-4)

(because) I have overcome the world...I have conquered the world,

I have prevailed over My enemies,

I have won the victory over the world (Rom 5:12, 19-20; 1 John 4:4)

Gen 3:15 is fulfilled

The last word is as the first word

John 14:1-3

Rom 5:1 being justified by faith we have peace with God thru our  
Lord Jesus Christ

This verse is the Cliff Notes of the Bible, God’s Plan of Redemption

The world hates (John 15:18) and loses

The Lord God Almighty loves (John 3:16) and wins

Love conquers hate

Hate is defeated by Love

Jesus has overcome the world...Jesus' disciples overcome the world...by faith

1 John 5:4-5 with Rev 2-3

Rev 12:11 they overcame him (the accuser of the brethren) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death

Hate, Lies, Darkness, Sin, Death have been defeated

## **Application**

### 1. Questions

Have you “seen” Jesus, gazed upon something that is remarkable?  
Has the Light of the world appeared your heart?

Are you “fully persuaded” that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God?  
Like Abraham and Paul?  
Rom 10:17

Are you reconciled to God your Maker, or his enemy (by unbelief)?

### 2. Exhortations of the Holy Spirit

Ps 118:6, 8-9 The LORD *is* on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?...*It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. *It is* better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

every Epistle Peace be unto you

### 3. Promise

In the world this is an overwhelming breadth and width and depth of tragedy and suffering and fear and uncertainty

In the face of it all, we have hope...absolute assurance!

“in Christ”,

- the victory is ours (1 Cor 15:57)
- we abide/remain/continue
- we have joy that cannot be taken from us!
- we have hope in a world that offers no hope!

### 4. Call to Action

Go with boldness, in faith and not fear, to share this precious hope and peace