

"I Have Overcome the World"

JOHN 16 · LESSON 19

As Jesus makes his way with the apostles to the Garden of Gethsemane, John is sharing with us what he heard, what was on the mind of the Lord, and what Jesus communicated moments before his betrayal.

"I have said all these things to you to _____ you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. And they will do these things because they have not _____ the Father, nor me. But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may _____ that I told them to you." (16:1-4)

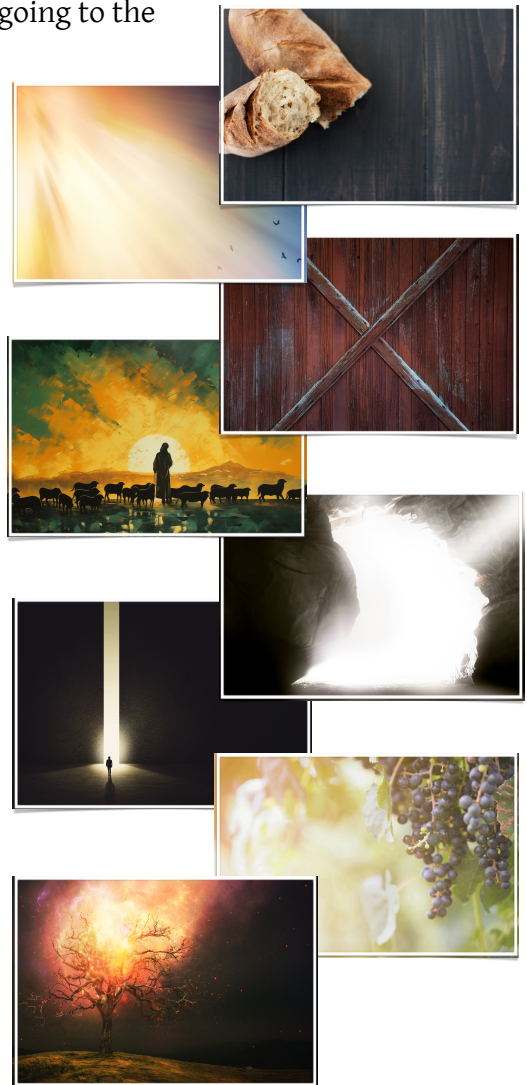
Jesus has repeatedly brought up that he is leaving the world and going to the Father, and in **John 16**, he acknowledges that "_____ has filled" the hearts of the disciples (16:6).

"Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your _____ that I go away, for if I do not go away, the _____ will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged." (16:7-11)

Even though Jesus still has many things he would like to say to the apostles, he knows, "you cannot bear them now" (16:12). But "the _____ of truth" will come, Jesus promises, and he will guide them into all the truth (16:13-15).

In a variety of ways, Jesus has told the disciples that life after his departure is going to be challenging. "The world will rejoice" even as the disciples were weeping and lamenting. But, Jesus promises, "your sorrow will turn into _____" (16:20).

As Jesus warns that they are about to be scattered and leave him alone, we get a glimpse of his perspective: "Yet I am _____ alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have _____. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have _____ the world" (16:32-33). Let's talk about it...



For Class & Family Discussion:

- “I have said these things to you to keep you from falling away” (16:1). “Falling away” is an interesting phrase. What do you think Jesus meant? How could the things he has said “keep” his disciples from falling away?
- Does anyone come to mind from the next book of the Bible that fits the description of Jesus’ warning in 16:2? Is there anything we can learn from 16:2-3?
- In what ways could it possibly be to the “advantage” of the disciples for Jesus to go away (16:7)?
- As Jesus describes the work of “the Helper” (16:7), “the Spirit of truth” (16:13), he says that “he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (16:8-11). Think about those three words: sin, righteousness, and judgment. Why does the world need to be “convicted” concerning those three things? Does that still happen today? If so, how?
- What else can we learn about the work that “the Spirit of truth” would do in 16:12-15?
- In 16:20, Jesus foretells a time when the disciples would “weep and lament, but the world will rejoice.” Why would the world rejoice about Jesus being gone?
- But Jesus also promised that a time would come that the disciples would experience joy that “no one” could take from them (16:22). What is this joy? Is it available today? If so, where? How?
- Jesus’ words in 16:32-33 are truly special for a variety of reasons. As you look at them again, what stands out to you? What are we being shown about the heart of Jesus? The power and authority of Jesus? How should it shape the way we live our lives this week?