

Christ's Final Message Summarized – John Ch 16

The 16th chapter of John is a very interesting chapter for many reasons. It is the summation of the last message Christ spoke to His disciples before leaving the Upper Room and going to Gethsemane. It is also packed with emotion such as:

1. *They will make you outcasts (v2)*
2. *Sorrow has filled your hearts (v6)*
3. *In a little while, you will no longer see me (v16)*
4. *You will weep and lament (v 20a)*
5. *You will be sorrowful (v20b)*
6. *You will have trouble, anguish, and sorrow (v21)*
7. *You will have peace, tribulation...courage (v33)*

Chapter 16 also covers again many of the points in this final discourse (ch. 14-16) and here is a listing of the five main points. (Using the New American Standard Bible translation (NASB))

1. *Persecution is guaranteed!*

16:1 – “These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling”

16:2 – “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.”

(Listen to the discussion on the website for more information on persecution)

2. *The Helper is on the way!*

16.5-7 “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; ...

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 will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

When we are in trouble and need help... we want to reach out to our friends and hear the words “**Help is on the way**”. Jesus is telling the disciples these comforting words because He knows how they feel now and how they will feel when He is crucified.

“But now” in verse 5 means that Jesus is NOT finished.

With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible

..You meant this for evil, but God meant it for good

The wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

Christ's Final Message Summarized – John Ch 16

All through the Bible we have desperate need followed by “but” God is not finished and will make Lemonade out of our Lemons.

3. Sorrow is only temporary

16:20 - Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be **turned into joy**.

With persecution going to happen, and a Helper on the way, our sorrow is temporary. Being forewarned is being forearmed. The night may be dark, but joy comes in the morning

4. Prayer is our primary resource and lifeline

All through the gospel and in Chapter 14-16 we are told to pray. It is the singular thing we can do which is more powerful than anything else, especially in the situations where we feel hopeless and unable to help. In the coming Chapter, we will see an example of how to pray.

5. Courage is always needed

16:33 - These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

In Me, that is, IN CHRIST, you have Peace

In the World, you have Tribulation or Trouble

Wherever you go, whatever you do, if you are in Christ you will have peace, the peace of the Lord. However if you are not “In Him” and are “in the World” you will have trouble and tribulation. This is not painless because this verse finishes... **“but take courage, I have overcome the World”**.

Courage is always needed and will be effective. Courage is from the root word for “heart”, so take heart, be encouraged, show courage and if you are “in Him” you will have peace about it.

Let's survive with joy.

- **Recognizing that sorrow will cause you to stumble, unless viewed as temporary, permitted by God to mature us...a mark of a maturing disciple is learning to not count God finished, until He is finished...wait for the “but God...”**
- **Developing a strong relationship with the Holy Spirit such that He is your guide, your teacher, and your companion**

Christ's Final Message Summarized – John Ch 16

- Make it a priority to set aside a time of honest prayer and seek God's will not your own
- Understanding and accepting that God is sovereign...not only of the world and its events, but also the events of your own heart and life

Pray to God

Lord help me not to lose heart when things don't go as I hope, but to recognize you are sovereign and rules over Kings and Nations, as well as situations. Help me hangkk