

He Has Overcome the World

John 16:16-24 ¹⁶“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?” ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² **So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.** ²³ In that day you will **ask nothing of me.** Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that **your joy may be full.**

John 16:25-33 ²⁵“I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷ for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.” ²⁹ His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰ Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” ³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

❖ Recap

❖ Introduction

❖ **Jesus is Trying to Comfort the Disciples as Their Hearts are Filled With Sorrow**

- ¹⁶“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.”
 - Jesus is telling them ahead of time what is going to happen
 - He is referring to His arrest and crucifixion and death... in a little while you will see me no longer
 - And again a little while and you will see me...
 - He referring to His resurrection from the grave...
 - And he is foretelling the fact that He will die and come back to life...

- So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸ So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.”
 - And the disciples are completely confused... They do not understand what He means...
 - They got confused a lot... and that only makes sense, since they were men listening to God
 - Application:
 - We get confused sometimes too... a lot... I encourage you to not lose heart
 - To continue to seek understanding...
 - Most of what is in the Bible can be understood through

- ◆ Reading... Meditation... and Prayer... and Life...
- ◆ Rely on the Holy Spirit...
- Do not be discouraged that it is difficult...
- ◆ These guys had been disciples for 3 years by Jesus Himself....

- ¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, **“Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’?”**
 - We See Jesus’ ability to know what people think...
 - Another sign of His God Nature...
 - God knows all things... even what we think folks...
 - Even our hidden thoughts... We may think we are fooling others... but we are not fooling God.
 - So He asks them if they are wanting to understand this...
- ²⁰ **Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.** ²¹ **When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world.**
 - So Jesus Explains it to them... and this is a very tough situation I believe...
 - He tells them they will Weep and Lament...
 - While the world rejoices...
 - Think on this... This great friend and teacher comes along in your life...
 - And you spend three years going every where with Him...
 - You get to learn wisdom and become a friend with someone you believe to be God in human flesh
 - And you form a very tight and close bond with Him...
 - You have seen all of these miracles and amazing things... and been part of helping so many..
 - And now He tells you that He is going away...
 - Breaks their heart...
 - And the sorrow they are feeling right now, is nothing like the sorrow they will feel in a couple hours
 - When Jesus IS taken away from them, beaten and crucified...
 - Jesus likens it to a woman having birth...
 - The sorrow and pain of birthing...
 - Followed by great Joy...
 - He says their sorrow will turn to joy...
 - Like a woman who forgets the anguish... because of the joy of her new born baby...
- ²² **So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.**
 - Jesus again assures them they will have sorrow now...
 - But they will see Him again...
 - And when they do... their hearts will rejoice...
 - And no one will take that joy from them...
 - Nothing will be able to take it...
- ²³ **In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.**
 - They will have no need to ask these questions...
 - After the resurrection... It would become clear to them...

- Their lives and their knowledge will be completely changed...
- It is going to make sense... A light bulb is going to go off...
- Application
 - This is very similar, although not identical
 - To when a person gets saved...
 - Previously they understood some things about God and Jesus and what He did for the world
 - But they did not fully understand...
 - Then the Holy Spirit comes into their lives at Conversion as they Repent and trust in Jesus
 - And it makes sense...
- They will not have to ask Him anything....
- But... then Jesus starts talking about their Prayer Life...
 - He tells them that whatever they ask in the Father in His name.... He(Father)will give it to them
 - So they are to be asking with His name in mind... not just saying in Jesus name
 - But saying according to what the will of Jesus is...
 - Praying according to what will enhance and glorify the reputation of the name of Jesus

➤ ²⁴ **Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.**

- **And He explains this has not been the habit up until now..**
 - But His death and resurrection will change that...
 - When He accomplishes defeating death... and overcoming the grave...
 - His followers will have access to the Father through Him...
 - 100% of the time.... So that whatever they need... They only need to come through Jesus
 - Based off of what He has done...

➤ ²⁵ **"I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father.²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf;²⁷ for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.**

- This figure of speech talk will end... Cause they will understand better...
- At that point it was impossible for them to fully understand...
- **WHY? Because they had not yet experienced the cross...**
 - Experience is often a light to our understanding the Scriptures...
 - There are things in the Bible that will be impossible or at least very difficult to understand
 - Until we experience certain things...
 - That is what is so awesome about the Bible... It is living... it is breathing...
 - It is always there able to feed our souls...
- **He again tells them they can go straight to the Father in His name...**
 - So much so... that He is telling them, that He does not have to ask the Father for them..
 - Because the Father loves them Himself...
 - So they can just go straight to Him...
 - THAT IS SO COOL.... Think about that...
 - ◆ Think about how so many believe we need to pray to Mary... as if she can hear everyone's prayers
 - ◆ And then she pleads for you to Jesus...
 - ◆ Jesus is saying... Pray to the Father... He loves You... You do not even have to have me to ask for you... He loves you and will hear you...
- **The Reason for the Father's love is:**

- Because they loved Jesus and Believed that he came from God...
- That is our recipe for being loved by God as well...
- Love Jesus... Believe He is from God...
- Have Jesus be your most precious thing

➤ ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

- Jesus is just reminding them of what has happened, and what is going to happen
 - His stay this time was meant to be temporary...

➤ ²⁹ His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! ³⁰ Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.”

- Then... The disciples understand a little better... they feel like this is a little more plain talk...
- I want you not to get discouraged when you read the Bible and feel like sometimes Jesus is speaking in circles, or metaphorically...
- He is, and does... and does so for certain reasons...
- **Now let me say this:**
 - You do have the Holy Spirit to Help you understand things...
 - And the full knowledge of the Bible...
 - And we can see and understand the cross and the resurrection now...
 - So we should understand much... But not all, and not all the time...
 - So do not be discouraged... but dig deep..
- **This is why we believe:**
 - Jesus explains things to them in such a way that it reaffirms their belief that He is who He says He is...
 - And reading his and hearing Him tell you what is going to happen before it happens
 - should reassure your believe that Jesus is who He says He is...
 - And If He is who He says He is.... This... should really cause us to change

➤ ³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me.

- Do You now believe me?
 - So.. finally... after all this time you believe what I am telling you about going away...
- Jesus then brings them back to reality for a second...
- And reminds them of the hardship that is coming...
- Tells them they will be scattered... and they will leave Jesus alone...
- But He tells them... He will never be alone... for the Father is with Him...
 - Jesus had such a strong and close relationship with His Father...
 - And we should try to mimick that same relationship...
 - And the only thing hindering that...
 - ◆ Is our own laziness... we get in the way of our walk with God...
 - ◆ Do not let that happen...

❖ He has Overcome the World

- ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

➤ **Jesus Goal: That We may Have Peace**

- Said these things so that in HIM you will have peace...
 - The only way to find real peace... is through Jesus...
 - If you want Peace... you have to find it in Him...
- This Peace comes from knowing for certain that Jesus is indeed God...
 - And that He will indeed take you to be with Him...
 - And that He indeed died and took your sins away from you...
 - And that He indeed has all power in heaven and on earth...
 - And that He indeed has made you to be a child of God...

➤ **In The World You Will Have Tribulation**

- Matthew Henry Said “Men persecute them because they are so good, and God corrects them because they are no better. Men design to cut them off from the earth, and God designs by affliction to make them meet for heaven; and so between both *they shall have tribulation*.”
- **After talking about his tribulations and persecutions as a believer sharing the good news.... Pauls says:**
 - 2 Timothy 3:12-14 ¹² Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it
- **Its Coming.... The tribulation and trials will come to those who want to be faithful...**
 - Although, it seems like each tribulation and each trial brings with it peace...
 - Peace that Jesus is in control... peace that you are where you need to be..
 - Yeah, times are tough, but Jesus is my God...
 - You know... I am serving God... So there is no need to worry or fear or fret...

➤ **He has Overcome the World: So Be Courageous**

- **But take heart; I have overcome the world.”**
- **Take Heart:**
 - Be of Good Courage...
 - Be Bold... Do not be afraid...
 - Don't get scared...
 - ◆ If God calls you to do something... do not be afraid.... Be courageous...
 - ◆ He became a man, died and rose up from the dead....
 - ◆ What is there to be afraid of...
 - Jesus says take heart:
 - ◆ Don't be like the cowardly Lion on the wizard of OZ....
 - ◆ Be Like David who slew Goliath as a young boy...
 - ◆ Be like Shadrach Meshack and Abednego in the fiery Furnance
 - ◆ Be like Daniel in the Lions Den
 - ◆ Be like Gideon and his 300 men against the thousands of the Midianites
 - ◆ Be Like Peter and John as they rejoiced in prison
 - ◆ Be like Paul who was beaten, stoned, shipwrecked and hunted like a dog at times...
 - Take heart...
 - ◆ Lets quit being afraid of serving God as we try to live for this world...
 - ◆ Take heart with your family and live for God
 - ◆ Take heart around your friends and live for God
 - ◆ Take heart at work and be a Godly example

- ◆ Take heart with your finances and trust God to provide as you are faithful to give
 - Generously and consistently
 - ◆ Take heart with your pet sins that try to rule You...
 - And know that Christ has much more for you...
 - He has better stuff than our sins blind us to...
 - ◆ Take heart
- **I have overcome the world**
 - Overcome: Means to Conquer or Prevail
 - He has conquered the world... and this is good news to us...
 - **If He had not done this:**
 - ◆ Satan would still be in charge...
 - ◆ We would have no way to have our sins forgiven...
 - ◆ We would be as hopeless as can be...
 - **But Jesus has prevailed...**
 - ◆ Prevailed over the darkness of sin and death
 - ◆ Over the grave...
 - ◆ He has prevailed over hell
 - ◆ He has prevailed over Satan
 - ◆ He has prevailed over man and their desire to rule their little kingdoms...
 - **1 Corinthians 15:54-58** ⁵⁴ When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." ⁵⁵ "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" ⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

❖ **Invitation:**

- Where do you need victory?
- Jesus has come to overcome the sin in your life...
- Have you ever truly followed Jesus?
 - Have you ever truly given your entire life to Him
 - To be used however He sees fit...
 - That is Discipleship... That is being a disciple...
- Do that this morning.