



COMFORT FOR TROUBLED HEARTS "Comfort Through Grief" John 16:16-33

No. 2123

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The attitude of Jesus in the midst of trouble was quite remarkable. He knew that He would rise again and return to the Father's presence. The disciples had no such understanding, but they learned. So should we.

I. The Experience of the Disciples.

- A. A lack of comprehension. vv. 16-18
 - 1. "I have been speaking figuratively." v. 25
 - 2. "Paroimia" — "dark, veiled saying, riddle."
 - 3. Comprehension impossible before cross and resurrection.
 - 4. Comprehension requires commitment.
- B. A lack of comfort. v. 19
 - 1. Talking to each other.
 - 2. Not free to talk to Him!
 - 3. "Now is your time of grief." v. 22
- C. A lack of composure. vv. 29-32
 - 1. Immature faith. v. 3-1
 - 2. Impending tribulation.
 - 3. Inadequate resources.
 - 4. Inevitable collapse.

II. The Explanation of the Master.

- A. His predictions.
 - 1. You will not see Me...you will grieve. v. 20
 - 2. You will see Me...your grief will turn to joy. v. 20
 - 3. You will leave Me. v. 32
 - 4. You will have trouble. v. 33
- B. His promises.
 - 1. You will experience joy that cannot be taken away. v. 22
 - a. The unique joy of the Resurrection.
 - b. The unique joy of access to the Father. vv. 23, 26
Who loves you (v. 27); hears you; answers you. v. 24
 - 2. You will experience insights that cannot be surpassed. v. 25
 - a. When the Spirit comes...
 - b. He "will tell you plainly about (the) Father."
 - 3. You will experience peace that cannot be destroyed. v. 33
 - a. The peace is found "In Me."
 - b. The peace is offered but must be accepted: "You may."
 - c. The peace is in the midst of trouble not isolated from it.
 - d. The peace is related to fulfilled predictions.
 - i. Promised before predicted desertion.
 - ii. Promised before impending crucifixion.
 - e. The peace is based on His triumph. "I have overcome."

Points to ponder: Has my grief been turned to joy? Is my peace secure in trouble?