

## C H A P T E R

# ◇ 16

Chapter sixteen contains the latter portion of Jesus' last discourse, the final teaching session designed to comfort, strengthen, and help prepare the disciples for His final departure. He warned them of coming persecution, explained further the work of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, who would be sent to strengthen and guide them through those troubled times, and to help them in their witnessing. It closes with the promise of peace of mind that the world can never know. Read the entire chapter.

**Verses 1 through 3.** "I am telling you these things so that you will not be too concerned about the things which will happen to you after my departure. I know what they are going to do to you. They will put you out of the synagogues and put you to death, even thinking that they please God in doing these things to you. They will do these things because they know neither Me nor the Father."

**334.** Jesus said that it was because they did not \_\_\_\_\_ Him or His Father that the Jews would think they \_\_\_\_\_ God when they persecuted the disciples.

**Verse 4.** Jesus did not tell His disciples of the difficult times to come in the early days of His ministry. He had to begin where they were and bring them along gradually to the things more difficult to understand. Now He was about to leave them and they must be prepared for the troubles and dangers they would have to face in the days to come. When this time came, they could look back and remember that Jesus foretold these things. Their faith would be strengthened and they could face death calmly, knowing that they would soon be with their Lord.

**335.** Jesus told His disciples of the coming time of persecution in order that they might be prepared for it. When they faced death, their \_\_\_\_\_ would be strengthened, and they could await death and the reunion with their Lord with joyful expectation.

**Verses 5 and 6.** In this section, Jesus seemed to indicate disappointment with His disciples in that they were so overwhelmed at the thought of parting they did not ask where He would be going, nor did they realize the joy He must have felt in anticipation of reunion with the Father.

**336.** The disciples' \_\_\_\_\_ at the thought of parting, should not have prevented them from sensing the \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus must have felt at the thought of reunion with His Father.

*Verse 7.* Jesus was trying to make His disciples understand that not only would His condition be bettered when He returned to the Father, but theirs would be better also. He could not send the comforter until after He had ascended to His Father. See John 7:39.

**337.** Jesus encouraged His disciples by telling them it would be to their advantage for Him to leave them, for then He would send the \_\_\_\_\_, the Holy Spirit, as a friend and helper.

*Verses 8 through 11.* These verses are difficult in the King James translations, but to substitute "convince" for "convict" makes the meaning clearer. The Holy Spirit, using the apostles and the messengers who follow them, convinces the world of its sin; convinces the world of the righteousness of Christ, and, by contrast, its own unrighteousness; convinces the world of judgment to come. The prince of this world was judged at the cross, defeated at the tomb, and will meet his final condemnation when cast into the Lake of Fire. See Revelation 20:10.

**338.** When He comes, the Holy Spirit will convince the world of \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, and of \_\_\_\_\_.

*Verse 12.* Jesus told His disciples that there was much more He wished to tell them but they would not be able to understand now. The Gospel, as we are told by Paul in the 15th chapter of 1 Corinthians, is the death of Christ for man's sins, His burial, and resurrection. Until these had come to pass, they would not be understood.

**339.** The disciples would not \_\_\_\_\_ the basic facts upon which the Gospel is based until these events had taken place.

*Verses 13 and 14.* At the right time, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, would come and guide the disciples unto "all truth." Jesus spoke the things He heard from the Father, the Holy Spirit would speak the things He received from God. He would prophesy of the future and reveal things concerning Christ. Again and again we're told that He is the Spirit of Truth. That should cause us to examine our own lives to see if the Spirit of Truth is living in us. Christ will be glorified in the things He reveals.

**340.** When the Holy Spirit comes, He will \_\_\_\_\_ the apostles into all truth, \_\_\_\_\_ of the future, and \_\_\_\_\_ things about Christ that will glorify Him.

*Verses 15 and 16.* Many times Jesus had emphasized the unity of Himself with the Father, saying that He did the works and spoke the words that the Father had given Him. Now He said that it would be the same way with the Holy Spirit. "He will take of mine and show it to you." The disciples did not see Jesus while He was in the tomb, but they would see Him for a short time after the resurrection.

**341.** Jesus assured His disciples that the Holy Spirit would teach the same things He had \_\_\_\_\_ and that after a short separation, they would \_\_\_\_\_ Him again.

*Verses 17 and 18.* The disciples did not understand and were discussing among themselves what Jesus meant when He said that in a short time He would leave and they would not see Him, and a short time later they would see Him again. It is easy for us, looking back upon the accomplished fact, to understand the prophecies of the Old Testament prophets and the prophecies of Jesus about His death and resurrection. But most of these prophecies were in veiled language, and we should not expect them to be understood until all was accomplished. In fact, on several occasions, Jesus told His disciples that they would not understand what He was telling them at the time, but when these things came to pass, they would remember and understand.

**342.** The disciples did not \_\_\_\_\_ what Jesus meant when He said, "A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you shall see me."

*Verses 19 and 20.* Jesus realized that the disciples were puzzled and desired to question Him as to the meaning of what He had said. He reassured them that though He was going to leave them and they would be sorrowful and would mourn and weep while the world rejoiced, later their sorrow would be turned into joy.

**343.** Jesus indicated that the \_\_\_\_\_ the disciples felt at His leaving would suddenly be turned into \_\_\_\_\_.

*Verses 21 and 22.* Jesus used a very appropriate allusion to help the disciples understand their present position and give them hope for the future. He told them their sorrow was similar to that of a woman in the pains of labor. She cried in agony, but when the child was born, she was filled with joy that she had brought a new life into the world. So would their sorrow turn to joy, unending joy, when they saw their Lord again and knew that He had conquered death.

344. Through the allusion of the sorrow of a woman in labor turning to joy when the child was born,

Jesus sought to give \_\_\_\_\_ for the future to the disciples.

**Verses 23 and 24.** Jesus knew what was coming but the disciples did not. They were going to be plunged into a situation surrounded by disturbing and frightening events, and Jesus would not be with them. Jesus told them that they would have at their command all the strength, all the courage, all the wisdom, and all the power that they would need to successfully cope with the enemy under these new conditions. All they would need to do would be done for them. And we today have as great a promise. See I John 5:14, 15. We cannot ask anything "in Jesus' name" that is not in accord with the Father's will.

345. True or False? We have access to the same source of strength which was promised the disciples by Jesus.

**Verse 25.** Jesus had previously taught using parables and proverbs and many of these were difficult to understand, "But the time is coming soon," He said, "when I shall teach you plainly of the Father." Jesus was probably referring to Pentecost and after, when the Holy Spirit would reveal all things.

346. Jesus said that although formerly He taught them using \_\_\_\_\_, soon

He would teach them \_\_\_\_\_ of the Father.

**Verses 26 through 28.** Again Jesus emphasized that from that time forward, their requests to the Father should be made in the name of Jesus. He would not need to intercede for them, for the Father loved them because they had believed in, and loved, His Son. He, Jesus, had come from the Father and was going back to the Father. Jesus was again emphasizing the unity of Father and Son.

347. Jesus told His disciples that He no longer needed to \_\_\_\_\_ for

them because the Heavenly Father \_\_\_\_\_ them; they needed

only to make their requests in the name of Jesus.

**Verses 29 and 30.** Jesus' disciples said that now He was speaking to them plainly and they understood what He was saying. They were convinced that He knew everything, just as God did, and didn't need any one to teach Him. This convinced them that He had come from God as He said. They had previously confessed Him as Son of God and the Messiah, but now they seemed to have understood more fully who He really was. In His own words, "I and the Father are one."

348. The disciples seemed to have come to a better understanding of who Jesus is, to

realize the \_\_\_\_\_ of Father and Son and that Jesus had

\_\_\_\_\_ forth from God.

**Verses 31 through 33.** What Jesus said now seems strange in view of the fact that He had spent so much time encouraging His disciples and building up their morale. As a paraphrase, we think this expresses the meaning. "So now you really believe? That is good, for the time is very near when you are going to be scattered, every man will go his own way, and I will be left alone. I will seem to be alone, but not really, for I will know the Father's presence with Me. You also can know the peace that the world cannot know because it does not know the Father. You can even be joyful, even in your tribulations, for you will have witnessed that I have defeated the prince of this world."

**349.** Jesus assured His disciples that they would have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, even the midst of tribulation, for He had won the victory over this evil world.

***ANSWERS:***

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 334. Know, pleased           | 337. Comforter                      |
| 335. Faith                   | 338. Sin, unrighteousness, judgment |
| 336. Sorrow, joy             | 339. Understand                     |
| 340. Guide, prophesy, reveal | 345. True                           |
| 341. Taught, see             | 346. Parables, plainly              |
| 342. Understand              | 347. Intercede, loves               |
| 343. Sorrow, joy             | 348. Oneness (Unity), come          |
| 344. Hope                    | 349. Peace, joy                     |