

John 16

1-4 Why did the Lord warn them (and us) of trials they could expect to endure?

So that they would be prepared for the real world. They would not be disillusioned, thinking that they were in the wrong. Confirm their faith in Him. If His warnings are valid so are His promises. Note. Religious persecutors are the worst.

5-6 The prospect of His going filled them with sorrow. They believed they could not get along without Him.

7 Rather it would be an advantage to them. He will send The Counselor – Helper to take His place. The Holy Spirit.

8 The effect of the Holy Spirit's ministry through the apostles would be to convict men of the guilt of their sin. The true nature of righteousness and the grim truth of the Judgment to come.

9 The greatest sin of all is the sin of unbelief – rejecting the Lord Jesus Christ who is the sinner's only hope of forgiveness.

10 The Lord Jesus was righteousness personified in His earthly life of total obedience to The Father.

11 The Prince/god of this present evil world has been judged and cast down by The Saviour's death and resurrection, therefore universal judgment will follow.

12-15 The disciples at this time were not able to clearly understand all they needed to know. When the Spirit of truth comes they would be given understanding of gospel truth and what is yet to come. This knowledge is now ours in the New Testament. The aim is to glorify The Lord Jesus Christ.

16-18 They are puzzled – What does He mean by “a little while”?

19-22 He explains – There will be a time of terrible sorrow for them, while the world rejoices in His death. But this will be followed by a time of great joy when He rises from the dead. And this joy will last through the whole future gospel age.

23, 24 This would be a time for prayer to The Father in the Name of the Son with the promise that such prayer will be answered in accord with the revealed will of God.

25 In the age of the Spirit they would be taught truth plainly.

26-28 They and we, will have a personal relationship with our Heavenly Father because of the coming of the Saviour.

29, 30 The disciple's faith in Him is confirmed by His plain speaking

31, 32 They truly believe, but the time of sorrow and parting and scattering will test them all, including the Saviour, but The Father is with Him.

33 Trouble will always come from the world in rebellion against God but The Lord Jesus gives peace and security to His people. He has overcome the world and so will we. Take heart. Be of good courage!