

The Hope and Joy of Disciples (John 16: 16-33)

- I. Disciples Have Hope For the Future (16-22)
 - A. The disciples are distressed about Jesus departure (16-18)
 - 1. Jesus speaks of his departure and reappearance (16)
 - a. A little while they will see him no more
 - b. A little while they will see him again
 - c. Jesus probably speaks of his death and resurrection
 - d. The disciples are fearful and worried at this
 - 2. The disciples are confused about his sayings (17-18)
 - a. They did not understand what he meant about neign gone and being seen again
 - b. They did not understand what he meant by saying he was going to the Father
 - B. The disciples are promised an abiding Joy (20-22)
 - 1. Believers will grieve as they await joy (20-21)
 - a. The world will rejoice as believer weep (20a)
 - i. When Jesus died, the world rejoiced and the believers wept
 - ii. Today, as the world descends into darkness, the world often rejoices as believer lament
 - b. Believers' grief will turn to joy (20b)
 - i. Jesus promises grief in the Christian life
 - ii. Jesus also promises our grief will be turned to joy
 - c. Believers' grief and joy are like childbirth (21)
 - i. A woman goes through great agony in childbirth
 - ii. A woman's agony is not comparable to the joy of having the child
 - iii. The Disciples will grieve the loss of Christ but when the Spirit comes, they will have greater joy than ever before
 - iv. Believers today grieve the fallen world and the curse of sin, but we experience the same joy the disciples had because of the Spirit in us – and we have joy in the hope that we will be delivered from our sin completely one day.
 - 2. Believers' Joy in Christ will be Permanent (22)
 - a. The disciples will grieve until they see Jesus again
 - b. The disciples' heart will rejoice when they see Jesus again
 - c. No one will be able to remove their joy – it is permanent
 - d. We have what the disciples were waiting for – we have the fullness of the Spirit and the fruits of the Spirit – Our Joy is full because we are in perfect relationship with God

- e. Our joy will be perfected when we are delivered from the fallen world

II. Disciples Have Perfect Access to the Father (23-27)

A. The Disciples will Be given all they need before the Father (23-24)

1. In that day (probably Pentecost) the disciples will know all truth about Jesus (23a) – they will not question Jesus about anything
2. In that day the disciples will have authority with the Father (23b)
 - a. They will ask the Father in Jesus name
 - b. They will receive what they ask in Jesus name
3. The disciples will joyfully come directly to the Father (24)
 - a. They have not yet asked in Jesus name
 - b. They have asked Jesus himself because he was with them
 - c. They didn't realize Jesus was going to be their mediator before God the Father
 - d. Jesus tells them to ask in his name so their joy will be full – they will have direct access to the Father through Jesus
4. The disciples will soon be told plainly of the Father and the Son (25)
 - a. Jesus will demonstrate the Father's love and wrath at the cross
 - b. Jesus will demonstrate the Father's acceptance in his resurrection and ascension.
 - c. The disciples will know the Father personally through the Son and the Spirit

B. The Disciples will Have Direct Relationship with the Father (26-27)

1. The Disciples will no longer need a human mediator (26)
 - a. In Judaism a priest was necessary to come to the Father
 - b. In Judaism a sacrifice offered by a priest was necessary
 - c. Jesus say that in the day they ask the Father in Jesus name – Jesus will not petition the Father on their behalf
 - d. They will have direct access to the Father
2. The Father Directly Loves those who love the Son (27)
 - a. They won't have to have a human mediator
 - b. They won't have to have Jesus speak for them
 - c. They will be able to go directly to the Father because of the sacrifice of Jesus
 - d. The Father will love them directly because they have loved and trusted in the Son

III. The Disciples' Hope and Joy Rest Only in Christ (28-33)

A. Jesus Reveals the Disciple's Hearts (28-32)

1. Jesus reveals that he is returning to where he was before (28)
 - a. He came from the Father

- b. He is going back to the Father
 - c. He is claiming to be divine before the disciples
- 2. Jesus Demonstrates the Prideful Frailty of the Disciples (29-32)
 - a. The disciples claim to believe Jesus came from God (29-30)
 - i. Finally they claim to understand Jesus' clear speech
 - ii. Finally they believe Jesus knows all things
 - iii. Finally they believe Jesus came from God
 - iv. This is an affirmation Jesus' deity
 - b. Jesus exposes their prideful profession (31-32a)
 - i. Jesus knows they do not yet truly believe
 - ii. Jesus knows they have no power until the Spirit comes
 - Jesus asks, "do you believe?"
 - Jesus predicts they will scatter when he needs them
 - Jesus predicts they will abandon him
 - Their "belief" is incomplete without the Spirit
 - c. Jesus will be Comforted by the Father (32b)
 - i. Even though they will abandon him, he will not be alone
 - ii. The Father Himself will comfort Jesus
 - iii. This is the same relationship believers will share with the Father through Jesus
- 3. Jesus Reveals the source of the disciple's Hope and Joy (33)
 - a. Jesus tells them these things for their peace
 - i. Their peace will be IN HIM
 - ii. Jesus tells them they will abandon him because their true peace will come with the resurrection and the coming of the Spirit
 - iii. They will have peace even though they will fail him
 - b. Jesus tells them these things for their Courage
 - i. They must know that there will be tribulation in this world
 - ii. They must have courage – not in their own strength – but in Christ's victory
 - iii. Jesus has overcome the world