

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

November 10, 2021

John 16: 25 - 33

25 These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. **26** At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: **27** For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. **28** I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. **29** His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. **30** Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God. **31** Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe? **32** Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. **33** These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Pastor Jon covered for Pastor Tom this evening and began with a review of verses 23 and 24 from last week:

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. **24** Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

*This is the 3rd time that Jesus speaks about praying in His name in chapter 16. It is important to note that Jesus wants us to pray to the Father but in Jesus' name. Jesus says there will come a time when He will be the intercessor, seated at the right hand of God. This happens after the resurrection. Upon our conversion, our bodies become the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the Spirit knows us from the inside and when we don't know how to pray or what to pray in a situation, the Holy Spirit knows. (Refer to Romans 8:26 and 27 in last week's notes)

*Besides being our intercessor, Jesus is also our High Priest in the order of Melchizedek because Melchizedek had no beginning and no end. This reflects the idea that Jesus has always been with God, from before the beginning and into eternity.

Verses 25 - 27

These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. **26** At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you: **27** For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

*Jesus has explained to the disciples that if they have seen Him, they have seen the Father. Jesus is God incarnate, in human form, in order to carry out His mission: to redeem the world, conquer sin and defeat Satan.

* 'But the time is coming' refers to His death and resurrection, which have not occurred yet. When that event does happen, the disciples (and all of us) can pray to the Father and Jesus will intercede. The Father loves us so much (he is not a taskmaster) and wants to answer our prayers. However, He is not Santa! He wants to hear our prayers but we must be in obedience to His Will and honor Him. So we must not grieve the Holy Spirit by not listening to His guidance. This is essentially sin because we are saying that we want to be in control, not the Spirit. This saddens God when we fall short.

Verse 28

I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father.

*This is the 2nd time (1st was in verse 27) that Jesus says He came forth from the Father. He did this so that He could redeem mankind and when this is accomplished He will return to the Father.

*Even though Bible scholars note that John 20: 30 - 31 is the key verse in John, this verse encapsulates the movement of the Gospel of John: Jesus came from eternity, spent a few moments on earth to accomplish His mission of redemption, and then returned to eternity.

Verses 29 and 30

His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. **30** Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God.

*The disciples now get the idea, finally, that Jesus came from God (3rd reference to this). He is God manifest in the flesh.

*This should be plain to us and the disciples are now convinced that Jesus is the Messiah, Savior and comes from God. But the disciples don't yet comprehend the crucifixion or that Jesus will take upon Himself all the sins of all the world, nor the idea of His resurrection and return to heaven. Do we even comprehend that now?

Verses 31 and 32

Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe? **32** Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

*Jesus is talking about the night of His betrayal about to happen. He will be all alone when the disciples scatter away from the Garden of Gethsemane. However, Jesus will not truly be alone: look the great truth from 2 Corinthians 5: 19, 'To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.' God would still be with Jesus there.

*Now when Jesus was on the cross it was different. In Mark 15:34 we read that Jesus cries out, 'My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?' The explanation of this comes from Psalm 22 where it is stated that God is Holy

and cannot look upon iniquity. Jesus had ALL the sins of the world upon Him so even His Father had to look away from Him. Jesus was torn away from God like the 4 inch thick veil was rent in the Temple. This curtain divided the holy of holies section away from the part of the temple where the people were. So tearing the veil opened up the place where God met with priests. Jesus' death opened up the relationship between God and mankind that sin had blocked. And beyond that...When Jesus was on the cross there was separation/tear in the Godhead as well. Yet God was still in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. This mystery cannot be solved by human minds. But as we ponder it, Jesus will use eternity to reveal this through the Holy Spirit and this should cause us to kneel before Him anew.

Verse 33

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

*The main idea here is PEACE. All over the news we hear of drug abuse, suicides, riots, disagreements. All these point to a restlessness in the world today. And only Jesus can offer the peace needed. People look to so many things other than looking for peace through Jesus. We will not even find peace in church or Christian service. Peace is only found in the Lord Jesus.

*All the world has troubles and there are many types of troubles. BUT Jesus has overcome the world of troubles. He is victorious. And His victory is our victory. Jesus is the only one who ever lived a victorious life but we can let Him live within us and through us and then we have the same victory. Having a close relationship with Jesus gives us the peace that passes all understanding. And because of that peace, we have joy unspeakable (good cheer!) AMEN!!!

Pastor Jon opened the lines for questions or comments:

Some were singing "Oh victory in Jesus!"

Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee
While we are absent one from the other.
