

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

October 27, 2021

John 16: 19 - 21

19 Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me? **20** Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. **21** A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.

Pastor Tom opened by directing our attention to the passage (verses 19 - 28) having two verses that use the term *verily, verily* (which means to pay attention) and one verse using *hitherto* (which means up to this point in time). Another key word, *proverb*, will be discussed later on.

Another note Pastor Tom made was reminding us that this entire passage is in red letters in some Bibles, meaning that the whole text is Jesus' words. Here Jesus is speaking to His disciples who don't seem to understand the point Jesus is making. We are on the other side of the Calvary event and therefore, we do understand what Jesus was saying and wonder why the disciples didn't get it. Perspective.

Verse 19

Now Jesus knew that they were desirous to ask him, and said unto them, Do ye enquire among yourselves of that I said, A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me?

*We believe that Jesus is God. This is important in our belief system because many world churches do not teach this about Jesus.

Discussion was held about the Trinity and the functions of each person in the Trinity. One of Jesus' functions was to love us so we know the Love of the Father. See John 16:27.

More dialog occurred about the sparse visitors people got in nursing homes and the desperate needs within our schoolchildren. Concluding with the question: How much do these kids and adults need LOVE?!

*Jesus knew what was on the disciples' hearts. Does HE know what is on your heart? YES! So don't pretend you are perfect... tell Him what your needs are, remembering that as much as parents love their children, Jesus loves us more!

Verse 20

Verily, verily, I say unto you, That ye shall weep and lament, but the world shall rejoice: and ye shall be sorrowful, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

*Here is one of the verily, verily verses so we need to pay attention to what Jesus is saying to both the disciples and to us: We will mourn, the world will rejoice. When the women were following Jesus along the Via Dolorosa on the way to Calvary, He told them not to weep for Him. Some people saw Jesus at the Cross and wept but others rejoiced because Jesus was out of the picture (so they thought).

Pastor Tom related these thoughts to Rebecca's testimony a couple weeks ago. She said don't cry for me when I am gone, just burn my wheelchair! Imagine the joy she will have in heaven when her bonds are broken!

*We will be sad, broken, lamenting at times in this world. And that is OK because God created our emotions and we should recognize them and know that Jesus went through them all as well. BUT. as Jesus said and we must pay attention to, our sorrow will be turned to joy. This happens if we have Jesus in our heart. We can turn those sad emotions upside down. This is the promise of the Gospel! Funerals can be celebrations of this promise or they can be very sad, difficult situations without faith.

Verse 21

A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.

This verse is for the ladies: Pastor Tom opened conversation on birthing experiences and many ladies shared, the bad and the good moments. Finally, after several minutes, Pastor Tom asked: How relevant is the Word of God to us? We just spent time affirming that we understood the idea Jesus was talking about because we believe the Word is true. The Word will prove itself, we do not have to prove it.

Before closing out tonight, Pastor Jon gave a definition for *proverb* which will be used in John 16: 25.

Proverb means a pithy saying in which comparison and contrast are used so that an important truth is set forth.

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