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By Dan Maines

## **John 16**

### **John 16:1-2**

"These things I have spoken to you so that you will not be led into sin. They will ban you from the synagogue, yet an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering a service to God."

† Jesus warned of persecution, including expulsion from the synagogue and martyrdom. Such hostility would be cloaked in false zeal for God.

† The Mishnah (Sanhedrin 10.1) reflects the seriousness of

exclusion from the community, showing the weight of Jesus' words.

### **John 16:3-4**

"These things they will do because they have not known the Father nor Me. But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. However, I did not say these things to you at the beginning, because I was with you."

† Ignorance of God drives persecution. Forewarning strengthens disciples' endurance.

### **John 16:5-7**

"But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, grief has filled your heart. But I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I am leaving; for if I do not leave, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you."

† Jesus' departure was not loss but gain, for it brought the Spirit's indwelling presence.

### **John 16:8-11**

"And He, when He comes, will convict the world regarding sin, and righteousness, and judgment: regarding sin, because they do not believe in Me; and regarding righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you no longer are going to see Me; and regarding judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged."

† The Spirit convicts the world of sin through unbelief, reveals Christ's righteousness in His exaltation, and declares Satan's defeat in judgment.

† Chrysostom noted that the Spirit's work confirmed Christ's victory and the futility of the devil's reign.

### **John 16:12-13**

"I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them at the moment. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."

† The Spirit revealed truth progressively. The apostles were guided into full understanding, ensuring the inspiration of Scripture.

† The Dead Sea Scrolls (1QS 4.21) spoke of the Spirit of truth guiding God's people, anticipating this fulfillment.

### **John 16:14-15**

"He will glorify Me, for He will take from Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; this is why I said that He takes from Mine and will disclose it to you."

† The Spirit does not glorify Himself but magnifies Christ, revealing the unity of Father, Son, and Spirit.

### **John 16:16-18**

"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me." So some of His disciples said to one another, "What is this that He is telling us, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" So they were saying, "What is this that He says, 'A little while'? We do not know what He is talking about."

† His words referred to His death, resurrection, and return. The disciples' confusion highlighted their limited understanding before the Spirit's coming.

### **John 16:19-22**

Jesus knew that they wanted to question Him, and He said to them, "Are you deliberating together about this, that I said, 'A

little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me'? Truly, truly I say to you that you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy. Whenever a woman is in labor, she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that a child has been born into the world. Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one is going to take your joy away from you."

† Sorrow would turn to joy through resurrection. The childbirth metaphor showed pain giving way to new life.

### **John 16:23-24**

"And on that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full."

† Praying in Jesus' name is access to the Father's throne. Prayer brings fullness of joy in union with Christ.

### **John 16:25-27**

"These things I have spoken to you in figures of speech; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly about the Father. On that day you will ask in My name, and I am not saying to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf; for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and you have believed that I came forth from the Father."

† Believers have direct access to the Father's love through Christ. The relationship is no longer distant, but intimate.

### **John 16:28-30**

"I came forth from the Father and have come into the world;

again, I am leaving the world and going to the Father." His disciples said, "See, now You are speaking plainly and are not using any figure of speech. Now we know that You know all things, and that You have no need for anyone to question You; this is why we believe that You came forth from God."

† The disciples confessed belief, though their coming actions would test that faith.

### **John 16:31-33**

Jesus replied to them, "Do you now believe? Behold, an hour is coming, and has already come, for you to be scattered, each to his own home, and to leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

† Their scattering was foretold, yet Jesus was never forsaken by the Father. He promised peace amid tribulation, for His victory was certain.

† Augustine wrote that Christ's words assured the church that persecution cannot overcome those who belong to Him.

### **How it applies to us today**

† Persecution is certain, but peace is secured in Christ.

† The Spirit convicts the world and comforts believers, guiding into truth.

† Sorrow turns to joy because Christ is risen and victorious.

† Courage is rooted in Christ's triumph over the world.

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

### **Source Index**

† Mishnah, Sanhedrin 10.1 – exclusion from the synagogue

† Chrysostom, Homilies on John – Spirit's role in conviction

† Dead Sea Scrolls, 1QS 4.21 – Spirit of truth guiding  
† Augustine, Homilies on John – Christ's victory assuring the church

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