

"Joy in Sorrow"

John 16:16-22 Lesson 10

After explaining the convicting ministry & teaching ministry of HS, Jesus talks about principles of joy for believers in the middle of sorrows.

THE MAIN STATEMENT, 16:16.

"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me."

Phrase #1 –

“a little while” = just a few hours until Jesus would be crucified & laid in a tomb.
 “see” (“behold”) = physical sight

Seems to contradict ^{NAU} **John 14:19** "After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also."

Phrase #2 –

“a little while” = includes time from death to His resurrection.

“see” = may include 3 separate events:

- 1) post-resurrection appearances
- 2) spiritual perception through the age of the Spirit
- 3) the return of the Lord

JESUS RECOGNIZES THEIR QUESTIONS, 16:17-19

Why does this have to happen? (v. 17) -- “*Some* of His disciples then said to one another, "What is this thing 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 go to the Father '?"

When? How long will we have to endure? (v. 18) -- “So they were saying, "What is this that He says, 'A little while '? We do not know what He is talking about.”

Jesus noted their concern (v. 19) -- “Jesus knew that they wished 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'?"

1 JESUS EXPLAINS A NEW PRINCIPLE, 16:20

“Truly, truly, I say to you, that
 you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice;
 you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy.”

- Contrastive emotions of phrase #1 –

- Transformed emotions of phrase #2 –

The new Principle:

EVENTS THAT CAUSE SORROW WILL BE THE CAUSE FOR REJOICING.

2 JESUS ILLUSTRATES THIS PRINCIPLE, 16:21

3 JESUS APPLIES THIS PRINCIPLE, 16:22

“Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one *will* take your joy away from you.”

EVENTS THAT CAUSE SORROW WILL BE THE CAUSE FOR REJOICING.

How did this principle work out for the disciples?

- Post-resurrection appearances

- Filling of the Holy Spirit

How does this principle work out in our lives?

- Sorrows in times of trouble
 - Rom. 5:3ff.
 - James 1:2
 - Invest in your troubles.

- Sorrows caused by sin
 - 2 Cor. 2:1-7

 - 2 Cor. 7:8-11

Next Week: John 16:23-33 “Joy in Prayer and Victory”