

Challenging Chapters of the Bible

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John 16:1-11

- “I have told you these things so that you won’t abandon your faith. 2 For you will be expelled from the synagogues, and the time is coming when those who kill you will think they are doing a holy service for God. 3 This is because they have never known the Father or me. 4 Yes, I’m telling you these things now, so that when they happen, you will remember my warning. I didn’t tell you earlier because I was going to be with you for a while longer. 5 “But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. 6 Instead, you grieve because of what I’ve told you. 7 But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God’s righteousness, and of the coming judgment. 9 The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in me. 10 Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. 11 Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged

16:7 But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

- **This verse should always be connected to**
- **John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. 17 He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. 18 No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you.**

16:7 But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

- **In the O.T. the Spirit of God would come upon some for periods of service.**
- **In the N.T. he comes upon all who believe for service and more.**
- **His primary roles to the Christian are baptizer, teacher, and comforter.**

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- In 1st Cor 12:13 He is the one who baptizes the believer into the body of Christ.**
- In John 16:13 He is the one who “guides the believer into all truth”.**
- And here in John 16:7 He is seen as our “parakletos” – literally one who intercedes and consoles.**

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- **So He places us into Christ, He teaches us about Christ, and he comes along side of us to help us live for Christ.**
- **A great mystery to me – why is it that the Holy Spirit would not come until Jesus went away and sent Him?**
- **What is not a mystery is the nature of the Holy Spirit – he is just like Jesus.**

16:8 And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.

- **This verse deals with the Holy Spirit's ministry primarily to the unsaved –**
 - **There is such a thing as sin.**
 - **There is such a thing as righteousness.**
 - **There is judgment for sin.**

16:8 And when he comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.

- **When we speak of sin, evil, and wrong the world may try to soften the language and rationalize it away, but there is a voice stronger than their own telling them otherwise.**
- **We are never alone in our witness for the things we say are merely confirmation of what the Spirit has been impressing upon them for years.**
- **They may deny what we are saying and try to push it from their minds, but there is One that cannot be ignored that haunts them daily.**

John 16:33 “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

- **The truth that no one likes, but cannot be denied – the Christian life is not intended to be a life of ease.**
- **How in the world can we expect to be like Jesus and not be treated as He was?**
- **We are not promised comfort – we are promised a comforter and we have an opportunity for peace in the midst of our pain.**

John 16:33 “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

- **I often wonder if the reason we have so many “Christians” have fallen away is because they were never attracted to Jesus Himself, but to a false promise of a life of prosperity and comfort?**
- **Have you ever heard, “I tried Jesus and He didn’t work for me”?**
- **On its face the statement is absurd, but maybe not based upon their false expectations based on false promises.**

John 16:33 “I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”

- **Trouble comes to all of our doors – it is just a matter of when it comes and what it looks like.**
- **The bad news –**
 - **We are lost apart from Christ**
 - **Life may get better, but not easier when we believe**
- **The good news –**
 - **In Christ we are safe from the wrath to come**
 - **In Christ we are never alone in our trouble**

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- **And on the practical side – how is that we expect to change without some catalyst for change in our lives?**
- **Experience tells me that ‘pain’ is perhaps the most common and effective initiators of change.**
- **Physical pain causes us to move our bodies – pain of the soul causes us to move as well to seek comfort.**

John 17 Highlights

- 9 “My prayer is not for the world, but for those you have given me, because they belong to you. 10 All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory.”
- The above, to bring glory to God (reveal Him) is the mission and purpose of every Believer and in fact, all of His creation.
- Ps 19:1 The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.

John 17 Highlights

- **13 “Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy.”**
- **Joy is the second on the list of the fruit of the Spirit so if there is a hierarchy to the fruit it comes right after love.**
- **Joy is having a sense of optimism in the face of every circumstance.**

John 17 Highlights

- **15 I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one.**
- **Staying right with the 'glory to God' theme – we have a mission and a purpose after salvation of an unspecified duration.**
- **The big question and one that will define much of our fruit bearing – how to live in enemy territory without becoming like the enemy?**

John 17 Highlights

- **17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.**
- **“Set them apart” (sanctify) by your word.**
- **If you want to be more and more sanctified, spend more and more time in the Word.**
- **We were sanctified at salvation, we are being sanctified as we live, and we will be fully sanctified when He comes.**

John 17 Highlights

- 20 “I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. 21 I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.
- 22 “I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. 23 I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

John 17 Highlights

- **One of the mentioned evangelistic activities of the church is unity.**
- **There is something attractive and compelling about a group of eclectic people who love each other.**
- **It is so rare that when it's seen it serves to attract people to Christ, and it serves as evidence that God did something supernatural and wonderful in His people.**

Questions