



INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 16:16-18 ¹Jesus knew that, a few hours after this conversation, he would die. Then, the disciples would not be able to see him. But, three days later, he would show himself to the disciples. He would be alive again and they would see him. Jesus predicted **His death** and **His resurrection**. Resurrection does puzzle and perplex people. It always has and always will. Well, the prediction certainly puzzled the disciples, and they began to ask among themselves what did Jesus mean? And Jesus knew of their perplexity. Jesus knows exactly what we need before we say a word.



- Some out rightly deny.
- Some say maybe and maybe not.
- Some say it can be and Jesus probably did arise, but it has no meaning.
- The Resurrection brings joy—irrepressible joy.
- The Resurrection gives open access into God’s presence.
- The Resurrection reveals all about the Father

In their sorrow Jesus pledged that He would return after His temporary departure. The disciples continued to ask among themselves; still being puzzled.

LESSON: I. SORROW AND JOY JOHN 16:19-22

16:19 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?— Nobody can answer our questions but Jesus. And He knew they were eager to ask Him. "Are you questioning among yourselves what you need from me? A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me?" Jesus knows everything you want to say or ask and is intend on showing us, so it is more than right that we can ask Him everything!

16:20 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. Jesus explains that the disciples would weep at His death thinking they were finished with Christ, however, the sorrow of the disciples would be turned to joy through the resurrection, the coming of the Holy Spirit, and the return of Christ (a future event that was unknown to them). But then He also says that the world would rejoice at His death. The world’s joy is different from the Saint’s joy. Why? - Because to the world, death would prove that He was not the Son of God. It would prove that He was a self-proclaimed savior who was now dead; and proved Him false. But we know that’s not true for the Saints of God. The Lord's emphasis is strictly upon what is coming at the end—the joy is that He rises from the grave. Those who believe Him to be the Savior of the world would have a true and rejoiceful relationship.

16:21 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.

¹ <https://www.easyenglish.bible/bible-commentary/john-ma-lbw.htm>
<http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html>





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

Jesus gives a visible illustration of a woman giving birth. She literally groans and grasps in desperation for the new life to begin. The mother in labor is in much pain because her time has come, but when the baby is born, she forgets her pain, for the joy and love of her newborn child overwhelms her. In other words, the same thing that caused the sorrow would later be the cause of the joy. The resurrection and the presence of Jesus again brings joy just as a newborn baby brings joy to a woman in travail.

16:22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. Jesus here is telling them of the sorrow and joy they will experience over the next three days. Jesus told the disciples that He understood their sorrow. The greatest word that could ever be said to a person in sorrow would be the promise that his sorrow will be temporary. That is a very important lesson to learn. If you've been saying to the Lord, "How long do I have to go through this?" the Word says, *"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning"* Psalm 30:5. Sorrow comes into our lives mainly for two reasons:

- **The testing of our faith.** If you endure the test and become stronger as a result of it, that's a cause for joy.
- **God chastising us.** When God disciplines us, He lets us know that we are His children who He wants to go in the right path to give us an overall joy in the end.

Jesus tells the disciples, *"When I die and am no longer with you, you'll be lonely and experience sorrow. But trust "Me" that out of your sorrow will come the greatest possible joy."* He alleviates the disciples' sorrow with a promise— **your joy no man taketh from you**, Isn't that wonderful? This is a great revelation of one of the ways by which our Lord works in our lives. He takes the very thing that causes us heartache and sorrow and turns it into a cause of joy. What was it that was about to give the disciples great sorrow?— **The cross.** But after Christ's death and resurrection, the cross became the source of their joy. The disciples had to wait until after the purpose of the cross, for their sorrow to turn into joy. This joy would remain in them in spite of the persecution that Jesus had predicted they would encounter. No one could take this type of joy from them.

II. PRAYER IN JESUS' NAME JOHN 16:23-28

16:23 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. No doubt they had asked Him many, many questions. But the Lord Jesus says, *"In that day" you're not going to be asking Him questions."* **Ask me nothing!** The word "day" can be used to refer to an era. So, in that day, after the resurrection and ascension or age of the Spirit, beginning at Pentecost...

1. The disciples would no longer ask Jesus questions because He would be bodily absent from them. Previously, the disciples had relied on Jesus' physical presence.
2. The disciples would no longer ask Jesus questions because now, they will ask the Father in Jesus' Name! *"Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, He will give it you."* The Resurrection gave open access into the Father's presence. *"We can now come boldly to the throne of grace"* Hebrew 4:16.
3. They will have no need to ask Jesus anything anymore, also because the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, will be residing in them permanently, and **"He"** will give the disciples full understanding. With the permanent indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, they will be so intimately acquainted with the Father Himself, that they will be able to ask Him directly and expect an answer.





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

16:24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. Christ was saying that up to this time, the disciples hadn't prayed in His Name. Prayer had been made to God, for He had taught them to pray to the Father (Our Father), but they hadn't considered the magnitude of His Name. Now, they were to pray in the merits of the finished work of Jesus. Now, the order was to ask—receive—that your joy may be full. They were about to enter into a new relationship order. So how can we know full joy? By asking the Father for things and receiving them (answered prayer) our joy is full and complete. Also, by asking the Father in Jesus' Name (pray to the Father, having the right and authority to enter into His throne room) will make our joy full and complete. And by recognizing one does not work without the other.

16:25 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. Jesus had spoken to His disciples, in proverbs (short sayings expressing an obvious truth), because He could not because He knew that the disciples would not understand. But, the time comes, that is, after His death and resurrection, when He shall no longer speak to them in proverbs, but show or reveal the Father plainly when the Spirit comes. An event was coming and could only be explained after the event. The cross could only be understood after the resurrection, for you could not understand one without the other.

16:26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:— God's justice fell onto the Son He loves, bringing us to Himself, so, in the day of Resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit, He's now telling them that in their time of prayer, they will approach the Father and ask in Jesus' Name. Jesus had been with them, but He will no longer be with them. Therefore, He's implementing that they recognize that they can go to the Father for themselves. Remember all things come from the Father, but Jesus is saying ask in My Name! The Name of Jesus has resolved any division, for the Father recognizes the finished work of the Son and hears the believer when they ask in Jesus' Name. He lets them know that He does not have to pray the prayer for them.

16:27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. Jesus says because the disciples loves Him and believed that Jesus came forth from the Father, the Father Himself loves these disciples; also loves any believer.

16:28 I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. Jesus' phenomenal claim was that: from the Father He came, then to the Father He returns.

1. Jesus says I came forth from the Father and came into the world.
2. Jesus says I leave the world, and go back to the Father

III. COMFORT IN TRIBULATION JOHN 16:29-33

16:29 His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. The disciples told Jesus that now He's speaking plainly and not speaking anymore proverbs.

16:30 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. Something that Jesus said struck the disciples hearts. They made a great declaration. The disciples told Jesus that they realized that He knows all things and no man needed to ask Him any questions. And by this they believed that Jesus came forth from God. Their





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belief was only the first step toward the great faith they would experience when the Holy Spirit came to dwell in them.

16:31 Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe?— And Jesus answers back, Do ye now believe?

16:32 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. But Jesus let the disciples know that the hour comes and is now here that all of them will scatter, every man to his own home and leaving Jesus alone. Yet, Jesus says He is not alone because the Father is with Him.

16:33 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. Jesus tells them that He speaks these things that they might have peace. The peace that's in Jesus Christ is lasting. It is an overcoming peace. But remember there is tribulation; trouble in the world. No matter who the person is, trials and tribulations come. *"But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."* The ultimate victory has been won!

SUMMARY:

19A question the disciples asked among themselves needed to be asked, and only Jesus could. *"A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me?"* 20Verily, verily, the disciples will weep and lament and be sorrowful, but the disciple's sorrow shall turn into joy, but the world shall rejoice: (over His death). 21Jesus gives a visible illustration of a woman giving birth. The mother in labor is in much pain because her time has come, but when the baby is born, she forgets her pain, for the joy and love of her newborn child overwhelms her. 22Jesus here is telling them of the sorrow and joy that they will experience over the next three days. He takes the very thing that causes us heartache and sorrow and turns it into a cause of joy. No one could take this type of joy from them (16:19-22).

23Jesus says "In that day" you're not going to be asking Him questions." Ask me nothing! Because He would be bodily absent from them. And because now, they will ask the Father in Jesus' Name! 24Christ was saying that up to this time, the disciples hadn't prayed in His Name. Until then, prayer had been made directly to God. Now, they were to pray in the merits of the finished work of Christ. Now the order is **ask—receive—that your joy may be full**. They were about to enter into a new relationship. 25Jesus had spoken to His disciples in short wise sayings, for He could not speak openly because He knew that the disciples would not understand. But Christ would reveal the Father plainly. 26 He's now telling them that in their time of prayer, **they** will approach the Father and ask in Jesus' Name. Jesus had been with them, but He will no longer be with them. The Father recognizes the finished work of the Son and hears the believer when they ask in Jesus' Name. He lets them know that He does not have to pray the prayer for them. 27For the Father Himself loves them, because they have loved Jesus, and have believed that Jesus came from God. 28 Jesus' phenomenal claim: from the Father He came, then to the Father He's returns (16:23-28).

29The disciples told Jesus that they realized that He knows all things and no man needed to ask Him any questions. 31And Jesus answers back, **Do ye now believe?** 32 The hour comes and is now here that all of the disciples will scatter every man to his own home, leaving Jesus alone. Yet, Jesus says He is not alone because the Father is with Him. 33Jesus tells them that He speaks these things that they might have peace. *"But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."* The ultimate victory has been won! (16:29-33).

