

Study Guide for Nov. 21st, 2010. Questions & Answers: John 16:16-33.

Introduction: Describe a time when initial perplexity eventually gave way to clarity.

I. The Disciples' Confusion: (vs. 16-18)

- A. Jesus' statement that **in a little while**, the disciples will see him no more, seems clearly a reference to his departure at the crucifixion. What does the statement, **and after a little while you will see me** refer to?
- B. What do the disciples link with the question of the meaning of **after a little while**?
- C. "If Jesus wishes to found the Messianic kingdom, why go away? If He does not wish it, why return?" (Godet) What are the disciples not grasping about Jesus?

II. The Disciples' Joy: (vs. 19-24)

- A. What does Jesus predict will be the reaction to his departure by . . .
 - 1) . . . the disciples?
 - 2) . . . the world?
- B. How does Jesus illustrate the process that will unfold with his departure / return?
- C. Read Isaiah 26:16-21. What does the prophet predict? How is it fulfilled in Jesus?
- D. What does Jesus envision for his disciples after his reappearance (vs. 23-24)?

III. The Disciples' Faith: (vs. 25-30)

- A. What does Jesus reveal about the Father and how the disciples will relate to him?
- B. Reflect on vs. 28. What does this teach about Christ's origin, destiny, and purpose?
- C. What do the disciples now assert about . . . Jesus? . . . their faith and its basis?

IV. The Disciples' Peace: (vs. 31-33)

- A. How does Jesus react (vs. 31-32) to the disciples' affirmation of faith (vs. 29-30)?
- B. What can the disciples expect from the world? What assurance does Jesus give?
- C. After Pentecost, what would be the disciples' perspective on these words of Jesus?