

"In Me you have peace."

John 16:23-33

23 "In 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. 24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full.

25 "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; an hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but will tell you plainly of the Father. 26 "In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I will request of the Father on your behalf; 27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father. 28 "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again and going to the Father."

29 His disciples said, "Lo, now You are speaking plainly and are not using a figure of speech. 30 "Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God."

31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 "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. 33 "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."

Last Sunday, we examined verse 28, an executive summary of this gospel.

John 16:28 "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world; I am leaving the world again and going to the Father."

/This statement by our Lord encapsulates the complete history of Christ from before the foundation of the world to His ascension and session.\

He was with God before the creation of the heavens and the earth.

/The Father sent His Son into the world with a mission to save the world. \

/Soon, He will leave the world and return to His Father.\

He will die on the cross as the savior of the world, and be raised from the dead.

/Forty days after that, He will leave the world and return to His Father. He will ascend into heaven and be seated at His Father's right hand.\

And when He arrives and is seated in glory, He will inaugurate a new age.
/It is the age of the indwelling Spirit – the church age.\

John 16:7

7 "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

/Jesus is going to leave the world, but His disciples will remain in the world.\

John 17:15-18

15 "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. 16 "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. 18 "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

/Jesus will send His disciples into the world with a mission: to be His witnesses.\

Acts 1:3-9

3 To these (His apostles) He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"

*7 He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 8 **but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.**"*

9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

We pick things up now in John 16:31.

John 16:31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 "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.

The hour has come for them to be scattered, and to leave Jesus alone.

/In His hour of greatest need, they would abandon Him. \

Mark 14:27

27 And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, because it is written, 'I WILL STRIKE DOWN THE SHEPHERD, AND THE SHEEP SHALL BE SCATTERED.' [Zech 13:7]

Peter denied Him; but they all fell away. They could not stay awake for even one hour with Him during His agony in the garden of Gethsemane. (Mark 14:32-42)

John 16:33 "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."

/The believer in Christ exists in two realms: in Christ, and in the world. \

/In Christ, he has love, joy, and peace.\

Phil 4:6-7

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

/In Christ, we have every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. (Eph 1:3-4)\

/In Christ, we have our real life, which is eternal life. (Col 3:3; Rom 6:23) \

/In Christ, there is no condemnation. (Rom 8:1)\

/In Christ, we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Eph 1:7; Col 1:14)\

/In Christ, we are a new creation. (2 Cor 5:17)\

/In Christ, we have become the righteousness of God. (2Co 5:21) Christ is our righteousness. (1Co 1:30) \

/Nothing will separate us from the love of in Christ Jesus our Lord, (Rom 8:39)\

/In Christ, we have liberty. (Gal 2:4)\

/In Christ, we have an inheritance. (Eph 1:10-12)\

/Because we are in Christ Jesus, in the ages to come, God will show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us (Eph 2:7)\

Phil 4:19-20

19 And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

In Christ we have everything wonderful and peaceful and gracious and loving.

But the believer in Christ exists in two realms: in Christ, and in the world.

/In the world, he faces tribulation and hatred.\

John 15:18-21

18 "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19 "If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you. 20 "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21 "But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.

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/The world hated Christ first; now we experience that same hatred.

Phil 1:29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

/2 Tim 3:12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

John 16:33b "In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world."

/Christ has defeated the world, overcome it. He did so at the cross, when He secured the victory over the ruler of this world and his associates.\

Col 2:13-15

13 When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, 14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.

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/Just as we are sharers in His tribulation, so too are we sharers in His victory!\

In the world you have tribulation but take heart – Christ has overcome the world!

/And because He has, we -believers in Christ - have overcome the world also!\

1 John 5:4-5

4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.

5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

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The world has been crucified to us, and we to the world (Gal 6:14). The world has no power over us. /We are dead to the world, and the world is dead to us. \

In the world we have trouble. In Christ, we have the victory over tribulation.

Rom 8:35-37

35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 Just as it is written,

*"FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG;
WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED."*

37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.