

John 16:16-24, “Your Sorrow Will Turn into Joy”

Last Sunday: The Advantageous Work of the Holy Spirit

Today: Your Sorrow Will Turn into Joy

16:16/ “A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” - ???

1. This refers to Christ in his crucifixion and resurrection (Cyril of Alexandria).
2. This refers to Christ’s ascension and second coming (Augustine of Hippo).

16:19/ “Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him...”

Why did they not ask Jesus?

1. Their lack of any sort of prototype. The disciples could not comprehend a Messiah who came to the earth, died, rose again, left and then sent another in his place (Ps. 22, Is. 53).
 - a. Frederic Godet, “Where for us all is *clear*, for them all was *mysterious*. If Jesus wished to found the Messianic kingdom, why go away? If He does not wish it, why return?” (Morris, 624).
2. Their lack of humility, mixed with fear. Earlier they had been bragging about which one of them was the greatest in the kingdom of God.
 - a. James 4:2, “You have not because you ask not...”

16:20/ “You will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice.”

- Weep (κλαίω) – to cry with a loud wailing; frequently occurs in regards to someone’s death
- Lament (θρηνέω) – loud crying with manifestations like tearing clothes, wearing sackcloth, hitting one’s chest; it mostly occurs amongst the community (Mt. 23:37).

16:23/ “In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.”

Two more reasons for joy:

1. The joy of understanding
2. The joy of effectual prayer