

Sorrow turns to Joy

△ John 16:16-24

The disciples will see Jesus again!

A little while, and you won't see me, and again a little while and you will see me

△ v16

This thoroughly confuses the disciples

△ v17-19

And we have two verses for this dialogue, where this phrase is repeated 2 times completely and a few times in parts

Except for illustrating the confusion, why the repetition

I think it is to underline the profoundness of Jesus statements

Even though there is confusion

Jesus said earlier that they won't see him again, as he is going away

Now he reiterates, but then assures that he will be back

And it is a lead in to another warning about what will happen

You will weep and mourn, and the world will rejoice

You will have pain, but this pain will turn into joy

2 interpretations that may be both true at the same time!

1. Jesus dies on the cross

The world rejoices

But then Jesus is risen and the disciples will rejoice

And then they will have joy

2. After ascension and pentecost

Jesus leaves again and again the world rejoices, while the disciples mourn

But then the Holy Spirit comes at Pentecost and Jesus is present with them through the Holy Spirit

But even at this time until now, the disciples and all Christians since live in this time of rejoicing and mourning

The time God's Kingdom is here, but not yet fully

So we are rejoicing through the power of the Spirit and receiving Jesus healing and power

But we are opposed and persecuted

leading to sorrow and mourning too

So I Jesus referring to his second coming?

When everything is complete

When then there will be no mournig

On that day you will ask nothing of me

No questions of clarification

No requests for healing, deliverance or good will

Because now we see as in a mirror darkly, but then we see face to face

^ 1 Cor 13:12

Now I only know in part, then I know fully, even as I have been fully known

^ 1 Cor 13:13

Until that time, ask me everything in my name

And you will receive so that your joy be complete

Summary

Again Jesus warns us of the difficulties ahead

But he has now send to Holy Spirit (at Pentecost)

(act 1:10-13)

To confict the world of its Sin, of Jesus' righteousness and of the nature of Satan

To Guide us in all truth

Our sorrow will turn into joy

In this world, but maybe not complete

But defenitily at the end of times when Jesus returns and The Kingdom of God will be fulfilled completely

Then we know fully, just as we have been known fully

Let us therefore take heart again

Jesus has not left us alone

He has send us his Holy Spirit

And there will be a time that we see him face to face

In the mean time, ask him for help in Jesus name: Ask and receive

So that our joy may be complete

More works of the Holy Spirit

△ John 16:4b-15

Introduction

last week

Focused on how the world hates Jesus and therefore it hates us by association

But we also learned that the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth, would testify on behalf of Jesus

Paraclete

One called alongside to help.

Functions: Advocate, Witness, Helper, Friend, Counselor, (Comforter, Consolator, Interpreter, Encourager, Intercessor, Mediator)

In this passage we see other things that the Paraclete / Holy Spirit will do

Jesus departure & disciples sadness

△ v4-7

But first Jesus continues with what will happen to him

There is some confusion here

He mentions that he could not say all these things before, as he was still with them

persumable because the couldn't understand
or he would not have wanted to worry them

But now Jesus seems surprised that no one asks him where he is going

Whilst a few chapters earlier Thomas exclaims: how do we know where you are going?!!

^ 14:5

One commentator suggested that it also could be translated 'now none of you asks me'

Probably referring to the confusion / reluctance / overload of the disciples

But Jesus recognises their shock and sorrow

Explaining that if Jesus does not go away, Jesus cannot be present with them through the Holy Spirit

As he is with them - physical body

Through the Spirit - Jesus can be everywhere

Jesus then promises again to send the Paraclete

And he gives two more tasks for the Holy Spirit / Paraclete

1) to prove the world wrong

2) to guide the disciples in all truth

To prove the world wrong

^ v8-11

about sin

The main sin is that people do not believe in Jesus as the Son of God

The Holy Spirit will convict people of this sin, but also will make Jesus present to them.

For instance Paul on the road to Damascus

about righteousness

This is Jesus' righteousness! not our own unrighteousness

Jesus was convicted to death for being without sin - this is not right / unjust

God has corrected this injustice / unrighteousness, because he raised him from the dead

And through the Holy Spirit, we meet with Jesus in Heaven, endorsed by the Father

about Judgement

Satan - the ruler of the world - helped Jesus to be crucified

Now that Jesus has been vindicated by God

It is also clear that of the Spiritual Beings now Satan stands accused, as the false accuser

He accused Jesus, but as Jesus has been completely cleared by God, it demonstrates

that Satan is behind all this and he now stands accused

To guide the disciples in all truth

The second role for the Holy Spirit is to make Jesus's truth known to the disciples and to us

He will guide us

He will speak what is from Jesus and the Father

and he will declare what is to come

He will glorify Jesus

He will take what is of Jesus and the Father and declare it to them and to us

The Paraclete in the form of teacher, guide counselor and interpreter

He is the one that brings us Jesus word to us

How to interpret the Bible, then and for today

How to live as a Christian in this day and age

How to testify on behalf of him

And helps us to interpret the signs of the times

So that we will live as Jesus wants us to live

This all comes back to remain in Jesus and Jesus remains in us

We know pause to sing a song and then move on to the next bit of our reading

