

Light and Life: Jesus in the Gospel of John

Today's message: **Take Heart, Jesus Wins!**

Jesus' presence and our joy ...

John 16:16-20 (ESV)

¹⁶ "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me."

¹⁷ So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸ So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about."

¹⁹ Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'?" ²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. **You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy.**

The Resurrection as the root of joy ...

Childbirth as a metaphor for life ...

John 16:21-24 (ESV)

²¹ When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²² So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. 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. ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

Everlasting joy requires ...

The Resurrection opens up the storehouse of heaven ...

Straight talk and the unfolding revelation of Jesus ...

John 16:25-30 (ESV)

²⁵ "I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; ²⁷ for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. ²⁸ I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father."

²⁹ His disciples said, "Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech!

³⁰ Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God."

Jesus' ultimate message of encouragement:

John 16:31-33 (ESV)

³¹ Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? ³² Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But **take heart; I have overcome the world.**"

Faith challenged ...

Persecution ...

Apostasy ...

Tribulation ...

But ...

5 Conclusions:

_____ is a necessary part of God's process in developing me.

_____ is the God-intended way I face every challenge.

_____ is the essence of God's promise.

_____ requires a choice:

_____ wins.