

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for July 22, 2007

“Sorrow Turned To Joy”

John 16:16-22

Jesus told His disciples in John 16:16-24 that sorrow would very shortly come to them, but the sorrow that would come to them would ultimately become an enduring and abounding source of joy.

The perplexity (John 16:16-19)

When Jesus told His disciples that they in a little while would no longer behold Him He was referring to His death.

When Jesus told His disciples that again in a little while they would see Him He was referring to His resurrection.

Christ's statement about “a little while” this and “a little while” that had confused His disciples (John 16:17).

The promise (John 16:20-22)

The word “weep” (KLAIO) used here in John 16:20 can also be found in John 11:31,33; and in John 20:11,13,15 and is always used in connection with tears shed in response to a death.

The word “lament” (THRENEO) is used typically to capture the various expressions of grief including words that might be spoken or sung at a funeral service.

Jesus not only promised His disciples that they would suffer sorrow after His departure but that the sorrow they would suffer would be turned into joy (John 16:20).

When the disciples saw Jesus alive it made it possible for them to look at His death not as a defeat but rather as a victory (Galatians 6:14).

The joy that we have as a result of Christ's work on the cross will be enduring (John 16:22).

May God give us the grace to look on the cross in such a way that it would produce in us an enduring and abounding joy.