

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 19, 2007

“Peace in a Troubled World”

John 16:25-27

Praying in Jesus' name means that our prayers are based on all that Christ is, has done, is doing and will do.

John 16:25-33 is a summary of everything that Jesus had said to His disciples throughout the upper room discourse.

The summary statement of John 16:25-33 first of all highlights the love of the Father for Christ's disciples (John 16:25-27).

The “things” Jesus was referring to when He said He had spoken to His disciples in figurative language were things pertaining to His Father (John 16:25).

The word “figurative” (PAROIMIAS) does not necessarily mean “in a figure” or “in a metaphor” or “in a parable,” but had to do with the obscurity of His utterance.

Christ's figurative or obscure language was obscure not because Christ was trying to make it obscure, it was obscure simply because Christ's disciples did not have the resources to understand it.

When Christ spoke to His disciples about “an hour” that was coming, He was speaking of the same time period He referred to as “in the day” in John 16:23,26 or in other words to the dispensation of the Spirit.

The disciples, prior to the coming of the Spirit, were poorly equipped to understand all the things that He was sharing with them about His Father, but after the Spirit came that would no longer be the case.

Christ was sharing about this future period of better understanding in order to form a bridge between what He had said about praying in His name in John 16:23-24 and what He was about to say in John 16:26-27.

When Jesus told His disciples what He had not said in John 16:26, He was making sure that His disciples understood that when they prayed in His name they were praying directly to His Father.

The reason why Christ's Father is willing to receive us into His presence and answer the prayers that we pray directly to Him in the name of His son is because He loves us (John 16:27).

The word that Christ used to describe His Father's love for us in John 16:27 is the word PHILEO, which is a word that communicated the presence of deep affection.

Christ's Father loves us because we have loved Christ (John 16:27).

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Our love for Christ is demonstrated when we choose to believe what He has said about Himself and what He has done (John 16:27).

If we truly believe what Jesus has said about Himself and what He has done, then we will find ourselves seeking to obey Him (Luke 6:46-48).

May God give us the grace as Christ's faithful disciples to believe that Christ's Father loves us and is eager to demonstrate His love for us when we personally approach Him in the name of Jesus.