

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 26, 2007

“Peace in a Troubled World”

John 16:28-33

Christ, in His summary of the Upper Room Discourse, highlighted three different thoughts in John 16:25-33.

The first thought that Christ highlighted in His summary of the Upper Room Discourse was the love of His Father for His disciples (John 16:25-27).

The second thought that was highlighted in His summary of the Upper Room Discourse in John 16:25-33 was the faith of Christ's disciples (John 16:28-32).

Christ, in John 16:28, in an attempt to share with His disciples what was most important for them to believe, outlined for them His two-fold movement from heaven to earth and back again.

Christ's heavenly origin is important because it makes it possible for Christ to be our Savior. Christ's heavenly destination is important because it places the Father's seal on Christ's saving work.

Jesus' succinct outline of what was most important for His disciples to believe led His disciples in John 16:29 to wrongly conclude that the hour of clarity that Jesus had spoken of in John 16:25 had arrived.

Christ's disciples in John 16:30 were not only impressed with the clarity of what Jesus said in John 16:28 but they were also impressed with its content.

The disciples were impressed with the content of what Jesus said in John 16:28 because it provided the answer to the unspoken question that they had been talking about among themselves in John 16:18.

Because the disciples were so impressed not only with the clarity but also the content of what Jesus told them in John 16:28 they once again affirmed their belief that Christ had come from God.

When Jesus raised the question “Do you now believe?” in John 16:31, He was not expressing doubt about the reality of the disciples' faith but directing attention to its inadequacy.

Jesus, in John 16:32, prophetically exposed the inadequacy of His disciples' faith by pointing out to them that in a few short hours they would in fact abandon Him even though His Father would not.

The third thought that Jesus highlighted in His summary of the Upper Room Discourse concerned the hope of His disciples in John 16:33.

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Christ's purpose in sharing with His disciples all that He shared in the upper room was so His disciples might have the peace that only He can give (John 16:33).

The word “overcome” (NIKAO) indicates a victory. Jesus' point was that by His death He has made the world's opposition pointless and beggarly.

Knowing that Christ has come forth from His Father and has returned to His Father, may we by the grace of God see Jesus as the one and only source of life and abundant life.