

## **He has Overcome the World**

### **John 16:25-33**

25 "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I 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 shall pray the Father for you; 27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. 28 I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father."

29 His disciples said to Him, "See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! 30 Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God."

31 Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? 32 Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. 33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." NKJV

I. "Do you now believe?"

A. Because of Jesus' statements they now think that they understand and believe.

B. But faith untried is unproved.

1. 1Pe 1:6 (NKJV) In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, 7 that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ

C. But remember what Jesus said about faith, that it only takes as much as a mustard seed.

1. The disciples faith would falter, but they would return, by God's grace.

II. Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own

A. After all that they affirm and especially Peter, when Jesus is arrested they will forsake Him.

B. Peter would deny even knowing his Lord.

C. But the others were not even close enough to be tried by such a situation.

D. How sad to see a disciple falter and fall down.

1. But are we made of better stuff than they?

2. Remember Jesus said to Peter that "Satan desired to sift him" but that Jesus had prayed for him.

3. Jesus is always praying for us.
4. Isaiah 53:12 Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, And He shall divide the spoil with the strong, Because He poured out His soul unto death, And He was numbered with the transgressors, And He bore the sin of many, And made intercession for the transgressors.
5. Romans 8:34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.
6. Hebrews 7:25 Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

III. And will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.

A. Forsaken yet not alone.

1. It was foretold that the disciples would forsake Jesus in His hour of trial.
  - a. Zechariah 13:7 "Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion," Says the LORD of hosts. "Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered;
2. But the Father would be with Him in that hour.
  - a. As He was in His hour of temptation and the angels came and ministered to Jesus.

B. But there is also that sense that Jesus would be forsaken by even the Father as He bore the sins of His people.

IV. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace.

A. Jesus is concerned that they not be troubled by the events about to begin.

B. His desire is that even in all these terrible hours ahead that they would not lose the peace that they had in Him.

C. It takes faith to believe when your world is collapsing around you.

V. In the world you will have tribulation;

A. Set on the other side against the peace that Jesus promises the world promises trials and tribulation.

1. The word means pressure.
  - a. It comes from the world used to press the grapes.

B. So it is that Christians are pressured by the world.

1. Pressed to deny Jesus.
  2. Pressed to conform to the ways of the world.
  3. In a memo obtained by FRC, Navy officials have announced that "no religious items (including Bibles, reading material, and/or artifacts) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit." The new orders are buried in a four-page document about patient care.
  4. Simply because they are Christian, different social groups have been denied government contacts in the areas of adoption, and rescuing women from the sex trade.
  5. In some hospitals, nurses are being forced to participate in abortions regardless of their own moral objections.
  6. Christians are being pressured to leave their faith at the church house door before they are allowed to participate in society.
  7. Essentially we are being told to shut up and get in line or else get out.
  8. Once Christians get a backbone and have a little faith and start breaking the laws that are morally wrong and the government starts putting them in jail then we will be no better than communist China.
  9. In Illinois a private pharmacist must provide RU486, a drug that will kill a newly conceived child, regardless of their moral beliefs or else lose their licence.
- C. But the apostle Paul said, "do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Rom 12:2
- VI. But be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.
- A. Remember Jesus said that the world had nothing in Him.
  - B. They could not pressure Him to their mold.
  - C. He had no desire for pride, money or fame.
    1. That is why I doubt very seriously that He is happy about the things we do to celebrate His birth.
  - D. We cannot help but be in the world but we do not need to be of the world.
    1. Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit that provides all the things that the world offers but in reality.
    2. Remember Jesus said to them, "If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you." Jn 15:19

3. John 17:14 "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 15 "I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 "They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

Don't let the world pressure you successfully. Submit to Jesus.