

The Gospel of John

The Final Lesson

John 16:16-33

Christ is wrapping up the final lesson He will give to the disciples before the Cross. In this last lesson, Christ tells them again of the coming Cross and the results of His coming victory.

The Setting

- After the Last Supper on Tuesday night, 14th of Nisan
- This teaching occurs as Christ and His disciples make their way from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane (14:31).
- This is the last lesson given by Christ before His arrest.

The Story

- Christ tells again of His coming death and resurrection – vs. 16
- The disciples still do not understand what is coming – vs. 17-18
- Jesus knows their minds and answers them – vs. 19
- Dark times are ahead but joy is on the other side – vs. 20
- Coming events are compared to childbirth – vs. 21
- Christ promises to return to them – Resurrection – vs. 22
- Direct access to the Father through Christ (see 14:13-14; 15:7,16) – vs. 23
- The joy through answered prayer made possible through Christ – vs. 24
- What had been taught vaguely will soon be fully revealed – vs. 25
- The fullness of blessing will be given to them – vs. 26-27
 - I think this speaks of the new standing of the believer in salvation after Christ's work was finished on earth. We do not need an intermediary any longer but have direct access to God and He blesses us through it.
- The path ahead for Christ – vs. 28
- The disciples are surprised at Christ's plainness and earnestness – vs. 29
- They confess their faith in Christ – vs. 30
- Jesus asks why it took so long – vs. 31
- Their present faith will prove too little to keep them faithful in the events ahead – vs. 32
- The purpose of Christ's teaching: to give us peace – vs. 33