

## **Promises of Joy and Answered Prayer** **John 16:16-27**

### ***Promise of joy to replace grief, 16-22***

- ❖ 16:16 repeats 14:19 but here “a little while” throws the disciples, who are already struggling to sort out Jesus’ plans. Seeing Him again shortly refers to Jesus resurrection three days later.
- ❖ Contrast in vs. 20—Polar opposite responses to Jesus’ death. It is a bit like in Rev. 11:10,11.
- ❖ Comparison in vs. 21—Childbirth analogy (Isa. 26:1-19, 66:7-14) shows swing of suffering ➔ joy. Joy = 5x in 20-22, cf. 15:11,17:13.
- ❖ Promise of joy here is for whom? And what about us? See in I Pt. 1:8, Phil. 2:18, 4:4, Rom. 14:17

### ***Promise of answered prayer 23-27***

- ❖ Two issues here--asking Jesus about things and asking the Father in prayer. Jesus will answer with less obscurity / plainly *in that hour* (25) = post resurrection talks, see Lk. 24:25-27.
- ❖ Divine switch occurs—just as the disciples will soon need to lean on the Holy Spirit for His help / information so too they will soon be addressing their requests to the Father directly, though “in His name” (i.e. prayers in accord with what His name stands for).
- ❖ Vss. 24, 26 = 3<sup>rd</sup> time Jesus has pushed bold sounding / open-ended prayers (14:14, 15:7). Even if primarily for the disciples, see us too in I Jn. 3:21, 22, 5:14,15, Mk. 11:23-27, Js. 1:6,7, 4:3.
- ❖ This promise sounds great . . . but why don’t we always receive?

Though we can pray with boldness, issues like *abiding, praying according to His will, keeping His commandments, faith, motives*, and God’s sovereign will all come into play.

