

Read Chapter 16

THE COMFORTER AND HIS WORK Vs 1-4: Jesus warned of persecution to come. When W. Tyndale wanted to give the Bible to English-speaking people in their own language, he met persecution, but said "I never expected anything else". How much we owe to such people, V2: In many lands today, people still think this way. Vs 5-11: Jesus claims that it is better if He goes away, so that the Holy Spirit may come. In His earthly body, Jesus was limited by time and space as other men are, but the Spirit would be in them at all times, forever! The word for "comforter" may also be translated to "counselor" or "advocate". Vs 8-10: V8 He will convict men of their sin of unbelief. All belief comes as a result of His working. Vs 9-10, He will convince men of the righteousness of Christ's death and resurrection. V11: He will also convince men that sin is already judged and Satan conquered! The "prince of this world" was defeated by Christ on the Cross. This is an accomplished fact in which believers may rejoice and not look for "judgment to come" (as often misquoted from this verse). Vs 12-13: He will speak the truth about Jesus, who is the Truth and teach of things to come. Note that He is to "guide us" into all truth – a gradual progression. He "guides" us patiently, because we could not "bear" all at once v12. We shall never exhaust the depths of God's revelation to us. Vs 14-15: He will glorify Christ – not Himself (He speaks from God). Vs 16-24: Their sorrow at parting will be turned into joy when they (& we) see Him face to face v24-26. We have direct access to the Father in prayer and may come to Him. No limits!

Key verses to memorise: JOHN Chapter 16:13-15 & 33

QUESTIONS

10. What are the characteristics of the Holy Spirit and His work as shown in this chapter?

11. How may we enjoy peace in this world?

12. How can we learn more about the truth of God?

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THE POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA
CORRESPONDENCE COURSE ON JOHN'S GOSPEL

ADVANCED LESSON 4

FIRST NAME ONLY: _____

Read Chapter 13

GLORY THROUGH SUFFERING Vs 1-2: The time for which Jesus had been waiting had arrived. In human terms, it showed the greed and treachery of one man (Judas) but in God's Plan, it was the perfect time. See Psalm 76:10. V3: Jesus, knowing that His time had come, performs a menial task. How great then must have been the need for this object lesson! His Kingship was in humility. Vs 6-11: Peter, the impetuous, was shocked at the demonstration, but he must be willing to be submissive. Even those who follow closely become "soiled" with the dust of the journey. See 1John 1:8-9. V8(b): To some the Cross is a stumbling block. 1Cor 1:17-25. Vs 12-14: Verbal agreement is of no value, unless we follow in His steps. We must know, speak, live and act out our faith. V21: Jesus was "troubled", but the other disciples were unaware of what Judas planned. Vs 22 & 28. V26: In the place of honour next to Jesus, Judas was given the special piece of dipped bread, reserved for important guests. Was this a silent plea that he reconsider? Vs 27-30: No night in history was as black as this, unless it be the night of the crucifixion!

Key verses to memorise: JOHN Chapter 13:34 & 35

QUESTIONS

1. Read Ch 13:21 & Ch 12:27. Why was Jesus "troubled"?

2. Could Jesus have received glory if He had not suffered? (See Philipians 2:8-9)

3. Was Jesus' prophecy about Peter fulfilled? See John 13:37 & 38 and Ch 18.

Read Chapter 14

COMFORT THROUGH THE COMFORTER! Vs 1-3: Jesus speaks words of comfort, to reassure His disciples before He goes away. There are “many rooms” prepared for all believers. V6: Clear statement. Many search for peace, hope, love and sometimes find these, in some measure, through other creeds. But there is no way to sonship with God, except through The Son of God! “Fatherhood” implies “sonship” and vice versa, Ch1:12. Vs 7-11: Astounding statements. Jesus restates His eternal relationship with God and claims that all who know Him must know His Father, God. Vs 12-14: If we truly believe, we have an inexhaustible source of supply. The Holy Spirit will make all this possible, V 16. Vs 16-18: The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost Acts 2. This promise was fulfilled then. The Holy Spirit is “in” believers, but not obvious to the world Vs 17 & 23, also Romans 8:9. If we are “His”, we have His Spirit. There is no basis for our “waiting” for a repetition of that initial coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Vs 21-23 point out that He indwells believers. Vs 15-24: Here the stress is on keeping His commandments if we love Him!

Key verses to memorise: JOHN Chapter 14:6, 13, 14 & 15

QUESTIONS

4. By what evidence may we know that Jesus and His Father are one?

5. How many times in this Chapter does Jesus mention the keeping of His commandments?

6. What provision do we have to guard us against being “troubled” or fearful?

POINT TO PONDER: How can I constantly be aware of God’s Spirit dwelling within me?
Do I always seek the guidance of His “Counselor”?

Read Chapter 15

THE TRUE VINE AND REAL FRUIT Vs 1-11: The imagery of the vine was familiar and there was a large vine carved on part of the Temple wall. God had often referred to the nation of Israel as His vine or vineyard, but often in the form of a vine run wild e.g. Isaiah 5:4, Jeremiah 2:21, Ezekiel 17:5-8 & in Hosea 14:7-8 as finding fruit “from Me”. V 1: Jesus is the true stem, through which life is supplied to the branches. V 2: Judgment comes on those who do not produce fruit – the wood of the vine is useless for any purpose; fruit is its only value. Vs 4-9: “Remaining” in the vine brings forth fruit. The branch has no life apart from the vine. As the sap flows through the vine, into the branches, so the life of Christ flows through us. It is not a matter of our striving to live the Christian life, but a matter of allowing Christ to live His life through us, compare Galatians 5:19-25. V10: Obedience results in joy V 11 and love Vs 12 & 17. V 16: Believers were chosen by Him for fruit-bearing. Vs 18-21: His followers may expect persecution, but see also 1 Peter 3:14-18 and Mark 13:9-13. Vs 22-25: Hatred of Jesus and God His Father, is the response of many to the inescapable challenge He presents – we cannot be neutral. Vs 26-27: His Gospel must be preached, regardless of men, but for this, the Holy Spirit is our strength.

Key verses to memorise: JOHN Chapter 15:4 & 5

QUESTIONS

7. How may we be sure we are “friends of Jesus Christ”, according to this chapter?

8. What is the fate of the useless branches? How may we avoid it?

9. How can we be effective witnesses for Christ?
