**John 16:4-6**

**7/3/19**

**Intro – If We Never Knew Before, The Last Several Verses Have Demonstrated That God Does…**

**(Slide 2)**

…No False Advertising

…Presents No Rose-Colored View Of What It Means To Be A Christian

…Never Misrepresents The Suffering Those, Who Are His Disciples, Will Face

**It Is We, Who Mistakenly – And Those, Who Purposefully - Distort The Truth, And Give People False Hope Of A Christian Life Guaranteed To Be Filled With Ease And Riches.**

**In The Last Several Verses, We Have Witnessed Jesus Removing Any Vain Hope From The Mind Of The Disciples.**

***With That, We Move Into Our Lesson For Tonight…***

**1. V. 4a – In Speaking Of The Things He Has Said Regarding Their Soon-Coming Persecution, Jesus Says This:**

**(Slide 3)**

“But These Things Have I Told You, That When The Time Shall Come, Ye May Remember That I Told You Of Them.” (KJV)

**2. What Are Going To Be The Advantages Of Jesus’ Forewarning Them, When The Time Of Their Persecution Comes?**

**(*They Would Be More Convinced Of His Deity [Omniscient]; The Comfort That He Previously Provided Them; The Instructions On How To Handle Persecution*)**

**3. When We See The Suffering Of Others Around Us – When We Face Personal Trials – When We Look Around Our World, And See Such Calamity, Wickedness, And Perversion - What Should Be The Advantage Of God’s Forewarnings, For Us? (*Same Things*)**

**(Slide 4)**

We Should Be More Convinced Of The Realness Of God

We Should Rest In The Comfort God Previously Provided

God’s Instructions Should Give Us Wisdom And Strength To Endure

**4. V. 4b – Next, Jesus Makes An Interesting Statement. He Tells Them That He Did Not Give Them All This Information, Earlier In Their Walk With Him. What Is The Reason He Gives? *(“Because I Was With You”)***

**5. Jesus Had Given Them Some Warnings Before The Upper Room Discourse, But Never With The Full Details, As He Is Now. Why Do You Think There Was No Need For Jesus To Tell Them All These Things, Before He Was About To Leave Them? (*As Long As He Was With Them In Bodily Form, He Would Be Their Protector; And He Would Be The One, Upon Whom The Blunt Of The Persecution Would Fall*)**

**6. One Of The Things That I Thought About During The Study Of This Part Of John, Is The Fact Of Just How Trying The Next Days And Hours Would Be For The Disciples.**

***For The First Time Since They Accepted The Call Of Discipleship…***

**(Slide 5)**

Jesus Would No Longer Be With Them In Bodily Form…

And…

The Comforter Would Not Have Fully Come…

**7. V. 5 – Jesus Is About To Demonstrate Something Very Important About The Disciple’s State Of Mind; And In The Process, Something Very Important Will Be Revealed About Us.**

**Jesus Again, Reminds Them That He Is Going Back To The Father.**

**What Is The Thing, Of Which, Jesus Accuses, And Even Gently Rebukes His Disciples? (*For Not Inquiring As To Where He Was Going*)**

**8. I Want Us To Look At A Couple Of Verses Where The Disciples Did In Fact, Raise The Subject.**

**(Slide 6)**

John 13:36

John 14:5-6

**9. Jesus’ Point To Them, And To Us, Is That In The Midst Of All The High, Heavenly, And Magnificent Revelation He Was Giving Them, *None Of Them Sought To Inquire Into The Spiritual Depths And Riches Of All That Jesus Was Teaching!***

**[*They Were Shallow And Fleshly In Their Thinking*]**

**10. This Is The Condition Of 95% Of Christians Today! Very Few Christians Seek To Explore And Learn The Deep Things Of God And His Word.**

**Here Is A Quote From Bible Scholar And Author, Harold L. Wilmington:**

**(Slide 7)**

“For Some Time, However, I Have Been Especially Concerned About The Rising Ignorance Of Even Basic Bible Knowledge In The World Today. The Bible Is All But Ignored In Our Universities And Lower Institutions Of Learning. In Spite Of Our Many Fine Bible Schools, The Present “Now Generation” Perhaps Knows Less About The Sacred Scriptures Than Did Any Other Generation Since The Reformation (*1517*).”

**11. (*Discuss Current Scripture Illiteracy, And The Fact That Most Christians Are Satisfied With Just Coming To Church Once-A-Week)***

**12. V. 6 – Jesus Concludes Our Lesson Today By Giving Us Insight As To Why The Disciples Had Not Bothered To Make Serious, Deep Inquire About The Spiritual Nature Of All That He Had Said. What Are We Told Was The Focus And Fixation Of Their Heart And Mind?**

**13. The Reason We Do Not Fixate On, Nor Pursue The Deep Things Of God, Is Because We Are Fixated On Our Personal Troubles, Trials, Goals, Etc.**

**(Slide 8)**

*It’s All About Me!*