

John 16 – 9 August 2026

“Governed By God: Flipping Everything Over”

Introduction

*Chap 13-16 are all intimate discussions w/ His disciples to prepare them for His imminence departure

*At end of Chap 13, the betrayer Judas leaves & Jesus begins to talk of life during His absence

*Chap 14, He calms their fears by reminding of *all that He's giving them (His Gifting)*: the way to life, the empowerment of the HS, & God's Word of hope

*Chap 15, He told them *what to live for (His Goals)*: to bear fruit, bear children & bear witness

*Chap 16 ends the discussion with how *His Governance* flips all their circumstances upside down

Today we're given 3 things that are flipped on their head as we're governed by God

#1 –He flips over confusion to make way for truth (16:1-15)

Read 16:1-4

1. He's further preparing them for His departure
 - a. There are things they'll need to remember to recall & mentally utilize that He's said
2. Why is He telling them of this coming trouble?
 - a. So they won't stumble or be offended
 - b. The word is the word for *scandal* – don't be entrapped or don't slow down your progress
 - c. World wants to confuse about what is true
3. They're on a march toward glorifying God by bearing fruit and making disciples
 - a. Jesus doesn't want the harassment from the world to slow them down thru confusion
4. There will even be those that say, *you're* the one that does follow God, they do
 - a. How do you know if you're right? Know the Father and know Jesus in His Word

- b. There are those saying if we don't allow all perverse lifestyles, we're against God. Wrong!

Read 16:5-7

1. Peter (John 13:36) & Thomas (John 14:5) did ask how to follow Him
 - a. Their question was about what *they* can do
 - b. Jesus is saying, 'you never asked what *I'll* be doing'
 - c. Don't focus on what we can or can't do, but on what Jesus' plan and power is
2. Their hearts are still troubled – He wants the coming of the H.S. to be a great help to them

Read 16:8-11

1. This is 1st of 3 working of the H.S. – to be *with* us (then at salvation He's *en* us, & will be *epi* us)
2. See the connection to vss 5-7 – He's sending the H.S. to the believers, so He can do His work with the world
3. What is this work of the HS *with* unbelievers?

- a. He convicts them of *sin* – the primary sin to be concerned about is not believing in Jesus
- b. He convinces them of what *righteousness* is – Jesus proves His righteousness by ascending back to the Father in perfection
- c. He convinces them that *judgement is coming* for us – Jesus proved victory over Satan & death by His resurrection – therefore the rest of those in rebellion will also be judged

Read 16:12-15

- 1. The H.S. has come to tell us many more things that Jesus wants to tell us
 - a. This isn't new revelation but new application
- 2. H.S. didn't come to draw attention to Himself
 - a. Many ultra-Pentecostals get this wrong
 - b. Like John 15:28 – He will testify of Jesus
 - c. H.S. is to help reveal more of Jesus to us

#2 –He flips over sorrow to make way for joy (16:16-22)

Read 16:16-18

1. “So they were saying’ at the start of vs 18
 - a. It’s the imperfect tense – continual action
 - b. They were having a full discussion about it
2. They still didn’t understand that He would be separated from them in arrest, crucifixion & death
 - a. But then He would rise again and appear to them

Read 16:19-22

1. Though the direct context is that for 3 days they’ll be in sadness, but *then* they’ll see that it was worth it at the resurrection
 - a. We can apply this to us
 - b. We go thru experiences in serving Christ that are sorrowful, yet the day’s coming that it’ll be turned to joy!
2. This is compared to the delivery of a baby

- a. The pain is for a short time, but the baby is for a long time
 - b. Once the baby comes, the pain isn't worth focusing on
3. As the pain of childbirth is taken away at delivery, the pain of this life will be taken away at our transformation (metamorphosis)

#3 –He flips over trouble to make way for peace (16:23-33)

Read 16:23-24

- 1. The primary ask isn't...
 - a. To gain a possession or to change a circumstance
 - b. It's to understand God's plan and the future
- 2. Until now they've asked nothing in Jesus' name (of the Father) b/c they've had Jesus w/ them
 - a. They've been at Jesus' side knowing His will
 - b. Soon they'll have to go to the Father and ask to know God's will *in the name of Jesus*

3. Do you believe that there's a day is coming in which we won't ever again wonder why God acted a certain way (we won't question Jesus ever again)
 - a. Indeed, He tells us to ask for understanding *now*, so as we believe Him it'll produce joy

Read 16:25-27

1. Jesus has been using figures of speech instead of just saying, "I'm going to the cross & then rise"
 - a. This is to not jeopardize the unfolding plan
 - b. But soon they'll know these things & be able to talk clearly with the Father about these things (as we can too)
2. See, the Father loves them, b/c they love Jesus
 - a. God's wrath abides on all unbelievers (John 3:36 & Rom 1:18)
 - b. Once we believe in Jesus for salvation, God's wrath is removed (Rom 5:1 & 9)
3. The only part of God's love that an unbeliever has access to is the offer of Christ crucified

- a. The cross of Jesus is the doorway to receive *all* of God's love for you
- b. If that's received, *then* the Father can treat you like a child instead of a foreigner

Read 16:28-32

- 1. Jesus is saying don't overestimate our faith or ability to fully grasp God's plan
 - a. Instead trust in God's love for us
 - b. Just as Jesus is relying on the Father's love for Him
 - c. *He* will see us through the trouble; not our faith or wisdom

Read 16:33

- 1. Jesus is always trying to change our inner qualities (peace, love, joy) rather than focusing on our activities
 - a. The activities will come later once we have the right heart

2. He's the Prince of Peace that gives peace that passes all understanding
 - a. Thru the definite trouble we'll receive in this world, we can be at peace knowing Jesus has overcome the world... making a way out of it for us

Conclusion

While Jesus is gone, we've been *gifted* with His will, His Spirit & His Word - We know the *goal* to bear fruit, bear children & bear witness...

Today we've seen what the Lord will flip upside down for those that are governed by God

1. **He removes our confusion to make known the way of truth**
2. **He removes our sorrow to make way for joy**
3. **He removes our trouble to make way for peace**