

Pastor Clifford  
August 22nd, 2021

## Buy From Me Gold (Part 10):

### **Joy**

**John 16:16-20** "A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." **17** So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" **18** So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." **19** Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'? **20** Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy."

- **In a little while you will see me then in a little while you will see me no more!**

The Lord brought great comfort to His disciples but He also knew that His brutal death would bring great sorrow.

**Isaiah 50:6** "I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard; I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting."

**Isaiah 53:3-12** "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. **4** Surely he has

borne our griefs and carried our sorrows yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted **5** But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.**7** He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.**8** By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?

**9** And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. **10** Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. **11** Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. **12** Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.”

Jesus said people would rejoice at his death.

- Evil becomes good.
- Spirit of anti Christ.

Jesus wanted to prepare them for the ordeal and the most encouraging way to do that is to prepare them for the amazing victory just on the other side. Their agony and grief would turn to joy at His resurrection! Joy in the midst of sorrow to the natural mind is an oxymoron. Joy transcends emotion and goes well into a state of being

rather than the outcome of a set of circumstances, which is why James would say:

“Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, **3** for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. **4** And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” **James 1:2-4**

- **When you meet trials of various kinds**

On February 7, 1945, the day after Dietrich Bonhoeffer turned 39, he was transferred from his cellar prison in Berlin to Buchenwald, then to Regensburg, and then, on April 8, to Flossenburg. He was not alone, joined by other political prisoners. He would preach sermons to them while they were in the back of military trucks, chained and jostling around. He would preach in the barracks as they lay on their cots and as they gathered around this thoughtful, soft-spoken academic theologian in his wire-rimmed spectacles.

At the break of dawn on April 9, 1945, Dietrich Bonhoeffer was hanged. As they prepared him for his death, he preached a final sermon. His words were remembered and later retold, by a captured RAF pilot: “This is for me the end, the beginning of life.”

**John 16:21-28** “When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. **22** So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. **23** In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. **24** Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. **25** “I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures of speech but will tell you plainly about the Father. **26** In

that day you will ask in my name, and I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; **27** for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. **28** I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

**Mark 4:11-12** “And he said to them, “To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside everything is in parables, **12** so that “they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven.”

- **For now I am leaving and going to the Father**

**John 16:29-33** “His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! **30** Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” **31** Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? **32** Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. **33** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

**“But take heart; I have overcome the world.”**