

Communion Meditation – Final Admonitions

John 15.25-16.4

“Bearing Witness”

November 22nd, 2015

The Helper, The Spirit of Truth

- **v26** ~ “.. when the Helper comes .. Spirit of truth .. He will testify of Me”
 - Gospel of John is all about truth (28 in gospels ~ 23 in John)
 - “.. grace and truth came through Jesus Christ” (John 1.17)
 - God is truth / Satan is called the “father of lies” (John 8.44)
 - God’s Word is truth “entirety of Your word is truth” (Psalm 119.160)
 - The church is the “pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Tim 3.15)
 - By contrast, Satan is called the “father of lies” (John 8.44)
 - The wicked have “exchanged the truth of God for a lie” (Rom 1.18)
 - “Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice” (John 18.37)
 - Pilate spits back at Him, “What is truth?” (John 18.38)
- God values truth far more than we understand

Big Picture View

- **Ch 13** – Sacrifice (washes feet, identifies betrayer)
- **Ch 14** – Comfort (Speaks of Father, Son and Spirit / Love and Peace)
- **Ch 15** – Admonition (Abide in Vine, Abide in Love, Prepare to be Hated)
- **Ch 16** – Prediction (Persecution, Promise of Helper, Sorrow, Joy)

Persecution Promised

- **Read 16.1-4** ~ “These things I have spoken .. I was with you.”
- Jesus is warning His apostles so they “should not be made to stumble”
 - To be forewarned is to be forearmed ~ But only the wise will heed
 - Specifics are shared: 1) put you out, 2) killing them as heretics
 - **v4** ~ “.. when the time comes, you may remember”

Parallels between those days and our own . . .

They were entering a time of societal decline / succumbing to evil . . .

These men’s lives were upended by Jesus . . . It had only just begun . . .

Jesus wanted them to be entirely aware of what was coming

The wicked reject truth, reason and fairness . . .

Psalm 46.1 ~ “God is our refuge and strength. A very present help in trouble.”