

Communion Meditation – Final Admonitions

John 16.25-33

“Love of the Father”

December 13th, 2015

Spirit, Son, and Father

- vss 5-15 ~ “Work of the Spirit” / 14.7-11 ~ “Preeminence of the Father”
- vss 16-24 ~ “Merit of the Son” / 14.12-14 ~ “Authority of the Son”
- vss 25-33 ~ “Love of the Father” / 14.15-18 ~ “Presence of the Spirit”
- Parallels from start to finish in Final Admonitions

Intellectual vs. Spiritual Understanding

- Read 16.25-28 ~ Jesus promises an end to figurative language
- Read 16.29-30 ~ They mistake clarity of speech for true understanding
- Read v31 ~ Jesus mildly rebukes them for their naiveté

Without Worldly Hope

- Read v32 ~ About to be scattered / No unifying presence of Jesus
 - They would flee to their own / own homes, own families, former lives
 - “yet I am not alone” ~ Jesus asserts Father will be with Him
- Read v33a ~ “.. in Me you may have peace”
 - He knows the emptiness they’ll soon experience
- Read 33b ~ “In the world you will have tribulation”
 - He knows the hardship they’ll soon endure
- Read 33c ~ “.. but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world”
 - Jesus is God ; He is not being overconfident

Confidence in Death and After-Life

- Many people ignore God and His Word all of their lives
- Yet they assure themselves, and others, of peace beyond the grave
- They confidently encourage others in their loss of loved ones
- This angers and grieves me / Yet to speak the truth is to be cruel . . .

Our “good cheer” is based not only in knowing that Jesus overcame the world
(The demons know and tremble . . .)

Our hope, our “good cheer”, is based on our sharing in His victory

The disciples’ confidence was not to be in knowledge only / But in faith . . .