

“These Wonderful Things...” John 16:25-33

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I 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 shall pray the Father for you; ²⁷ for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. ²⁸ I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.”

²⁹ His disciples said to Him, “See, now You are speaking plainly, and using no figure of speech! ³⁰ Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God.”

³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. ³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

John 16:25-33

Earlier in our service, I read the passage from 1 Corinthians which starts with –

⁹ But as it is written: “*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.*”

¹⁰ But God has revealed *them* to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

This passage also has in its context, Christ’s cross –

² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2

Plus, an emphasis on “these things” - ¹³ These things we also speak

¹ Cor. 2:9 might be called the **POSTER VERSE** because it is on more posters, works of art, etc... than any other verse of Scripture **SKY** or **NATURE**

It is thought of describing Heaven ... I think more accurately I think it describes the spiritual beauties of Christ's Cross and the things He (Jesus) attained for us on it, including Heaven, but not only or primarily Heaven ...

These things – spoken of by Jesus in John 16 are the same things Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 2 things which

Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him --- 1 Corinthians 2:9

Let us consider -

I. What are the “these things” Jesus is talking about in verse 25?

²⁵ “These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father. John 16:25

1. These things are “about the Father” things... Note how Jesus, right here, communicates more “about the Father” –

... but I 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 shall pray the Father for you; ²⁷ for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. ²⁸ I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.” John 16:25B - 28

What does Jesus communicate here, “about the Father”?

A. A new day of praying directly to the Father in Christ's Name -

. ²⁶ In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; John 16:26

B. A new loving relationship with the Father –

²⁷ for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God. John 16:27

C. *About Jesus' coming from and going back to the Father -*

²⁸I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father.” John 16:28

- *This coming from, and going to the Father, Jesus has been talking to them about this, even the purpose(s) of it –*

²In My Father's house are many mansions; if *it* were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. ⁴ And where I go you know, and the way you know.” John 14:2-4

- *He has told them He is the Way to the Father –*

⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6

- *He told them about knowing the Father –*

⁷ “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” John 14:7

- *His little while speech was also about going to the Father –*

¹⁶ “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.” John 16:16

II. *How had Jesus spoke “in figurative language” about “These things” in a way in which He would “no longer speak to you in figurative language”?*

1. *Here Jesus is NOT talking about His parables –*

¹⁰ And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables?” ¹¹ He answered and said to them, “Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. Matthew 13:10-11

Jesus explained His parables to His disciples!

2. *He is not talking about figurative language in general as we know, He communicates to us in the Book of Revelation, which is all after His resurrection but has a lot of figurative language –*

²⁰The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

2 “To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, ‘These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: Revelation 1:20-2:1

3. *I believe Jesus here is SPEAKING HERE (when talking about figurative language) about His communication as God – John 1:1 and as God’s Son, One of the Authors of both Scripture and History –*

A. *Here Jesus when Jesus is referring to figurative language; He is referring to the entire Old Testament sacrificial system, which was all designed to point to Christ as –*

²⁹The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! John 1:29

B. *The very events of Israel’s exodus from Egypt, the blood of lambs, protecting from the judgment of the Angel of Death were all meant to point to Jesus, Who is our Passover Lamb –*

⁷... For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 1 Corinthians 5:7

C. *In fact, the tabernacle, and the hidden Holy of holies where the High Priest was allowed to go just once a year was FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE for what Christ would do when He would go to the Father, and the Heavenly Holy of Holies to pay the penalty for our sins –*

¹⁹This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, ²⁰ where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek. Hebrews 6:19-20

*When Christ enters the real presence, behind the Heavenly veil, as our true and eternal High Priest, the veil is forever torn and done away with and we have the access to the Father that Jesus speaks about in **John 16:26-27**.*

III. These things are things Jesus' disciples think they know, but they did not know fully yet -

1. What Jesus disciples knew (or thought they KNEW) at this point –

³⁰ Now we are sure that You know all things, and have no need that anyone should question You. By this we believe that You came forth from God.” John 16:30

2. The limitations of the disciples' knowledge, faith -

³¹ Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? ³² Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. John 16:31-32

They would be scattered –

A. This scattering was prophesied –

⁷ “Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, Against the Man who is My Companion,” Says the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd, And the sheep will be scattered; Then I will turn My hand against the little ones. Zechariah 13:7; See also Ezekiel 34:12

- *Not only the scattering, but the persecution of the disciple themselves was prophesied – see also **John 15:18-21**.*

B. Jesus' death was not understood by His disciples before the resurrection though the OT sacrifices and even prophesies prefigured and foretold it –

²⁵ Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Luke 24:25-27

I love it that Luke also uses the word “things” to describe what Christ would do on the cross –

⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering. Genesis 22:8

⁷ He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a Lamb to the slaughter, Isaiah 53:7 A

IV. These things, are things we all should know –

³³ These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

1. They looked forward to and eventually saw what Jesus did for us – ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, ...To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood John 1:5 & Acts 5:29 -32

³² And we are His witnesses to these things ... Acts 5:32

2. We remember what He did for us, and are also called to be witnesses –

¹⁹ And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” Luke 22:19

¹¹ And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. Revelation 12:11

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