

John 15-16

Ch 15

Theme – I AM the True Vine (7th & final I AM Statement); True vs Unfaithful vine (Isa ch 5); any branch in Him that does not bear fruit is taken away (Heb 6:6?); Abides mentioned 10x's in v4-10; the one who abides in the Lord bears much fruit, yet without Jesus, we can do nothing (Sovereignty of God & Freewill choice of man in v5, Phil 2:12-13); consequences for not abiding; the blessings of being in fellowship; spiritual fruit in our lives glorifies the Father; we abide in the love of Jesus when we keep His commandments (Love= Keep); the Lord keeps His Father's commandments and abides in His Father's love (v10- Lord Jesus is our Perfect Example); Lord teaches us these things so that our joy may be full; reiteration of the Lord's commandment to love one another (Jn 13:34); the death of our Lord on the cross is not a mistake, but the highest act of love for us; Jesus knowingly & intentionally chose the disciples (and us) and charges the disciples (and us) to love one another; chosen by the Lord Jesus & rejected by the world; the world hates us because it hates our Lord; if our Lord did not come into the world, the world would still be able to hide its sins (Jn 3:19 & Jn 7:7); the hate of the world was foretold in Scripture (Ps 35:19); the world hates the Lord, but the Holy Spirit and the disciples of the Lord Jesus testify of who He is

Ch 16

Theme – The Lord warns the disciples in order to keep them from stumbling; warning of the coming persecution; the world will be so deceived that they think that persecuting the disciples is actually serving God; Lord tells us these things in advance so we will remember that He knew this was coming (and, therefore, is still in control); disciples struggle to see past their sorrow; it is to their (and our) advantage that the Lord ascends, because then He can send the Holy Spirit to us; Holy Spirit will convict the world of sin, righteousness, & judgment (Praise God that the **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of Jesus stands between sin & judgment!); Holy Spirit will continue to teach the disciples after the Lord ascends; the Holy Spirit is united & harmonious with the Godhead (just as the Son did not speak independent of the Father, Jn 12:49, the Spirit does not speak independent of the Godhead- v13); the Spirit will glorify the Son- v14 (and the Son always glorifies the Father, Jn 12:28 & 14:13); Lord reassures the disciples with the promise of “A Little While” (4xs in v16-19); when they see the Resurrected Lord, their grief will turn to joy and no one will be able to take that joy away (v20, 22); the Father will grant privileges in prayer to those who receive the Resurrected Lord with joy; the Lord cannot speak as plainly as He wants to since they are not ready to receive it (still struggling to fully understand that the Lord Jesus is fully God); disciples claim to understand; Lord knows they will scatter, yet declares that He is never alone for the Father is with Him (v32 & Jn 8:29); the warning of the Lord Jesus is meant to give us peace (Jn 14:27 & Phil 4:7); disciples of Jesus will face persecution, but take courage (echo of Jn 14:1), He has overcome the world
