

COMFORT FOR COMING CONFLICT

(John 16:1-7)

- I. Coming CONFLICT with the World (John 16:1-4)
 - A. SUFFERING in ministry would be INEVITABLE
 - 1. It will be INTENSE, even DEADLY
 - 2. It is provoked by WILLFUL IGNORANCE
 - B. SUFFERING in ministry should be ENCOURAGING
 - 1. Jesus had called them to a HARD path, not an EASY one (Lk. 9:23-24; 14:28-33; cf. 2 Cor. 4:17; 11:22-27)
 - 2. Jesus told them “these things” to keep them from STUMBLING
 - 3. Jesus has KNOWN this from the beginning
 - 4. Jesus has SHIELDED them by His PRESENCE
- II. Present COMFORT for the Disciples (John 16:5-7)
 - A. The disciples' sorrow was SELFISH
 - 1. Jesus was RETURNING to the FATHER (cf. 13:36; 14:5; 14:28)
 - 2. Instead of COMFORTING HIM they were CONSUMED by their own GRIEF
 - B. The disciples' sorrow was UNWARRANTED
 - 1. Jesus was going HOME in VICTORY

2. Jesus' departure was NECESSARY for the ministry of the HOLY SPIRIT
 - a. To REVEAL the person and works of Christ
 - b. To VINDICATE the Son's OBEDIENCE to the Father
 - c. To VERIFY the SUCCESS of the Son's provision of

SALVATION