

## JOHN 16:1-15 Study (NLT) "FALL AWAY" June 13, 2010

Vineyard Church • Great Falls, Montana

• MAIN POINT: Jesus warns his disciples that they will be tempted to fall away after their world built around him comes crashing down when He goes to the cross. However, a wonderful, indwelling presence will soon come to help them - God, the Holy Spirit.

• 16:1-4 WON'T FALL AWAY. The world of the Lord's followers is going to change radically soon. Jesus will go from a popular preacher to an enemy of the state and be crucified. So Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ them about the bad days so that they won't \_\_\_\_\_ because they get afraid, lose hope, and give up their faith in Him. The enemies of God will persecute the friends of God. Some of them will be expelled from the \_\_\_\_\_ (kicked out of their churches, ex-communicated, dis-fellowshipped). Some of the church leaders will think they are doing \_\_\_\_\_ a service by \_\_\_\_\_ them. The reason that spiritual leaders do this out of ignorance is because they have never \_\_\_\_\_ in a personal way the \_\_\_\_\_ or the Master. Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ them in advance so that when it happens it won't come as a shock.

FALL AWAY or "made to stumble." He is speaking about APOSTASY. Denying Christ and giving up the faith. The persecution will tempt believers to stumble in their faith--to reject Christ to save their own necks. The book of Hebrews is written to encourage people to stand fast. In fact, if a believer renounces Christ, He rejoins the company of the damned. *"For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away (apostasy), to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame."* Hebrews 6:4-6 NKJ

• 16:5-6 THE COMING COUNSELOR. Jesus tells his friends that he is \_\_\_\_\_ to the one (the Father) who \_\_\_\_\_ him. He wonders aloud why \_\_\_\_\_ of them \_\_\_\_\_ him where he was going. They just got very \_\_\_\_\_ and quiet. They just didn't want to talk about bad days coming. They wouldn't understand that this was good until after it all happened. Jesus tells them one of the good things that will happen when he takes away sin and opens a way into heaven --- the coming of the \_\_\_\_\_ - the Holy Spirit.

THE COUNSELOR: Since the fall in the garden, the personal experience of God was very limited. The Holy Spirit only came on a few of the prophets, priests, and kings of Israel. Now the Holy Spirit is going to be "poured out on all people." This would happen because Jesus would open the way from this world to the Father's world--from the Father's heart to the human heart.

• 16:7-11 THE SAVING ACTIVITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. And when he comes, he will

\_\_\_\_\_ the world of three things in his efforts to soften people's hearts up to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior. (1) It's \_\_\_\_\_. (2) God's \_\_\_\_\_. (3) The coming \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. Sin is not so much human frailties and failures to live a good life. In fact, the Father no longer sees and counts these things against us. **Sin** is a rejection of God. Sin that will result in eternal life lost is \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus—a stubborn, prideful, and perverse unwillingness to have God in their life and let him save them. **Righteousness** – right standing with the Father – the ability to stand in his presence without blame or fear is \_\_\_\_\_ because Jesus' righteousness is like a white robe covering us. **Judgment** will \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ of this world (the devil) has been \_\_\_\_\_ guilty and beyond repentance -- and cast down. He is no longer able to put off judgment or protect his followers any more. They will have to face the music with him. Evil people will no longer be able to run the world with impunity.

COUNSELOR ABLE TO COME: The door between God and man, symbolized by the curtain in the temple in Jerusalem, which was torn in two when Christ died on the cross (Matthew 27:51), is now open. So the Holy Spirit can pass to us and we can pass into the Father's presence. *"..He took blood into the Most Holy Place, but not the blood of goats and calves. He took HIS OWN BLOOD, and with it He secured our salvation forever."* Hebrews. 9:12

CONVICT: Conviction means "strong belief." It means being "found guilty" of a crime. Here it means... a person seeing the error of his ways so that he is willing to change his ways. The purpose of conviction is the saving of the person. A person under conviction says to himself, "I know this person, or my God cares about me--that is why they warn me and exhort me. I realize I am out of line and that I am harming myself and others by my attitude and behavior. I need to repent, change my mind and my ways. I think I will."

• Conviction is mostly the Holy Spirit's work. Good people can show others the error of their ways. But only the loving affection and approval and hope of escape that the Holy Spirit brings into a human heart can cause the person to decide to change. *"Who are you to judge another's (Christ's) servant? To His own master, he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand."* Romans 14:4 NKJ

RIGHTEOUSNESS. The Holy Spirit wants to convince us that we are righteous because we are joined to Christ. *"For He (the Father) made Him (Christ) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."* 2 Corinthians 5:21 NKJ *"He (Jesus) has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault."* Colossians 1:22

PRINCE OF THIS WORLD: The coming of Christ to the world was the beginning of the end of the power of the "prince of this world." Jesus destroyed his works. I John 3:8 Jesus'

disciples were given authority over him and his servants the demons. They said, "Lord, even the demons obey us when we use your name." "Yes," Jesus told them, "I saw Satan falling from heaven as a flash of lightning! And I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy. ." Luke 10:17-18

• At the very end, on the day of judgment, the devil and demons will be cast into hell. "The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.....And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire." Revelation 20:10,15

• 16:12-15 ONLY LATER WILL YOU BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND. The Master says that there is so much that he wants to \_\_\_\_\_ his friends and disciples. But they cannot \_\_\_\_\_ to deal with cataclysmic conflict between good and evil in the world and to some extent in their own souls until they see the victorious love of God in Christ in the cross and resurrection. After those days the Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ will come and guide you into all \_\_\_\_\_. He will give a heaven's eye view of this world. The Spirit of truth through God will not speak on his own \_\_\_\_\_. He will tell what He has \_\_\_\_\_ from Jesus. He will speak of and reveal three things: (1) The \_\_\_\_\_ (2) The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus. (3) All that the \_\_\_\_\_ has given to Him (and to us, as fellow heirs with Christ).

**What Does This Scripture Say To You?** \_\_\_\_\_