

LESSONS FROM FAMOUS LAST WORDS

*Jesus' Comfort for God's People***LESSONS FROM FAMOUS LAST WORDS:
JESUS' COMFORT FOR GOD'S PEOPLE****TEXT: JOHN 16:4-11, 16-18, 31-33, ACTS 1:8**

We can learn so much from what Jesus did to prepare God's people for His departure. We can see what mattered most. It's amazing to note that Jesus said that it was expedient (profitable, best) that He depart and we will see the reason for this as well.

"Parting is such sweet sorrow" — W. Shakespeare

1. Remembrance is part of our understanding

"...but when the time shall come, ye may remember..."

- a. Be listening if you'll remember.

— *Vs. 14 "...fear the Lord, and serve him... and put away the gods..."*

— Sincerity and truth: clear, genuine

— Put away: intentionally, distinctly

— Serve: to labour for the purpose given by a sovereign

- b. Remember if you're going to learn.

— Sometimes, understanding is more about timing than ability.

2. Refining is part of our progression

- a. Scattered to be regathered

— *"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted."* Matthew 28:16

— *"And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;"* Ephesians 2:20

- b. Tribulation to gain peace

"...in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation..."

3. Resourcing is part of our commissioning

— Jesus' departure was needful because He was ushering in a new season for them.

- a. New seasons need new resources

— *"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:"* Ecclesiastes 3:1

- b. Next and previous aren't in conflict if viewed correctly

— Next and previous only conflict when you don't appreciate them for their purpose and season.

- c. Acceptance leads to greater works

— We can't live in the past; nor should we dismiss it. We can live for the present and understand that we have a future.

Departures are needful at times to bring in what's next in God's plan for us. In the moment we may not understand but remember what's been said. Allow God to refine you in the process of change. Accept God's preparation and providence for what's to come and you'll see greater works done for Him!