



SERIES: John Believe
SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD
Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Scripture: John 16:28-33
TITLE: Jesus Is Peace

When my kids were young, storms would scare my kids. The lightning would flash and thunder would crack. So they would come into our room and hop into our bed. They felt safe in our presence. Though the world around them out of control, there was safety and peace in our presence.

Jesus offers us the same peace as we experience the storms of life and faith.

This is what Jesus said about His peace in John 16:28-33.

I came from the Father and have come into the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.”

His disciples said, “Ah, now you are speaking plainly and not using figurative speech! Now we know that you know all things and do not need anyone to question you; this is why we believe that you came from God.” Jesus answered them, “Do you now believe? Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”

Here Jesus wraps up His talk with the disciples. Soon He will pray for them and depart for Gethsemane before His death, burial and resurrection. He knows that His disciples will leave Him and even Peter will deny Him three times. They will go to the places they have found rest while they should have stayed by Jesus’ side where they can find true rest and peace.

But Jesus wants them to know that though they may abandon Him, He is not truly alone. God the Father is with Him. What a great reminder for us today. Though our families and friends may abandon us, God is with us. Though our coworkers may judge and reject us, God will never forsake us. He views us as His masterpiece. Though our neighbors may lock the doors when they see us coming, God’s door is always open for us.

Then in verse 33, Jesus provides us with words of peace and comfort that only He can offer. Jesus says, “I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.” Jesus was about to experience the ultimate pain and suffering. Yet, He found His way through it in His Father’s love and will. He knew that in a fallen world full of darkness, He would provide us the peace and assurance we

need. Though the world is a storm of sin, pain, and evil, Jesus offers us lasting peace, hope of acceptance, and comfort in the journey.

It's like going on a roller coaster or theme park ride. Around you may be chaos, but you are safe and secure in your seat and harness. The key is to remember that God is there for you. He has a plan. He is the one who is in control of it all. And though we may experience wrong and injustice, Jesus is coming back with a gavel and sword. Justice will be served. Eternity is settled. We can rest in the presence of our Father and Savior.

So today, no matter the hardship, rest in God's arms and in God's grace. Today, you are likely experiencing trouble. You know what Jesus was talking about. But remember, divine peace is there for you if you receive it. Hope is real and you need to focus on it. You're never truly alone or rejected because God is with you and loves you. In God's presence there is safety and peace. There's no place I'd rather be.