

**The Retirement Party of Jesus**  
**John 16:16-24**  
**June 28, 2026**

Retirement. Are you ready? Was your work meaningful?

This passage reflects on Jesus' retirement!

**The Teaching of Jesus Can Be Difficult v. 16-18**

Shouldn't we expect God's teaching to be beyond us?

Is Jesus playing hide and seek? I don't get it.

Somehow Jesus' statement should help them in trouble. But how?

Why did they not simply ask Jesus?

God knows your heart and mind even before you reveal it.

**Jesus Answers v. 19-22**

Their sorrow will be justified. Their loss will be immense.

But your sorrow will turn into joy.

CS Lewis in the Great Divorce: Heaven works backward.

Jesus compares His death and resurrection to a mother's labor pain and joy.

Jesus says, "you will see Me again." What does that mean?

Resurrection joy is a medicine for all our ills.

**The Gifts at the Retirement of Jesus**

The Father loves you as I do. Ask Him, in My name!

Death was defeated. Grace was earned by Jesus!

Penicillin – why is it a big deal?

Think about your prayer track record.

Why do we have access to God in prayer? *"That your joy may be full."*

**Meditation**

**The Power of the Resurrection**

O the depth of the riches and excellency of Christianity! Well might the great St. Paul count all things but dung and dross for the excellency of the knowledge of it. Well might he desire so ardently to know Jesus, and the power of His resurrection. For even on this side of eternity it raises us above the world, and makes us to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Well might that glorious company of worthies, recorded in the Holy Scriptures, supported with a deep sense of their heavenly calling, despise the pleasures and profits of this life, and wander about in sheep-skins, and goat-skins, in dens and caves of the earth, being destitute, afflicted, tormented. And O that we were all like-minded! That we felt the power of Christ's resurrection as they did! How should we then "count all things as dung and dross for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord!" How should we then recover our primitive dignity, trample the earth under our feet, and with our souls be continually gasping after God?

And what hinders but we may be thus minded? Is Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, altered from what He was? No, "He is the same yesterday, today, and forever." And though He is exalted to the right hand of God, yet He is not ashamed to call us brethren. The power of His resurrection is as great now as formerly, and the Holy Spirit, which was assured to us by His resurrection, as ready and able to quicken us who are dead in trespasses and sins, as any saint that ever lived. Let us but cry, and that instantly, to Him that is mighty and able to save; let us, in sincerity and truth, without secretly keeping back the least part, renounce ourselves and the world; then we shall be Christians indeed. And though the world may cast us out, and separate from our company, yet Jesus Christ will walk with, and abide in us. And at the general resurrection of the last day, when the voice of the archangel and trump of God shall bid the sea and the graves to give up their dead, and all nations shall appear before Him, then will He confess us before His Father and the holy angels, and we shall receive that invitation which He shall then pronounce to all who love and fear Him, "Come, ye blessed children of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world."

George Whitefield

