

“THAT INEVITABLE MOMENT”

JOHN 16:16-24

Despite so much uncertainty in life, one particular life matter is certain – everyone ever born will die. Even God Himself died when the Son offered up His life on that tree, breathed his last breath, and gave up His spirit. Since death is inevitable and His own death just ahead, Jesus does not sidestep this issue but tackles it head on.

DEALING WITH DEATH

① C _____ (16:16-19)

Shock, surprise and fear can quickly _____ the picture and infuse a multitude of additional questions and concerns.

Death is complicated. And though believers have an eternal perspective, we still live in constrained temporal bodies with limited veiled thoughts.

② C _____ (16:20a,21a,22a)

Jesus acknowledges our _____ expression in this event. None of us are robotic. We have hearts. We are wired with sentiments.

Though much has been written about Jesus’ response to the death of Lazarus and the significance of His response; nevertheless, He _____.

③ C _____ (16:20b,21b,22b)

The One who Himself encountered death is able to calm us during death (Hebrews 4:15).

The God of all comfort leans in during your distress and showers you with His _____ (2 Cor. 1:3-4).

In a twist, it is no longer the disciples _____ Jesus but Jesus _____ the disciples. That’s what we really need and long for.

④ C _____ (16:23-24)

The One who overcame death is the One we can confidently approach in death and know that as we do, He hears and as He hears, we can find our greatest solace and our greatest delight.

CONCLUSION

The One who experienced death gives you counsel on dealing with death. The Giver of life lays down His life and thereby, walks with us through this reality of life on earth.

How encouraging that God is not distant but up close and in person. He gets you; He understands you; He experienced your travail.