

The Spirit is Promised

John 16:7-15

November 7, 2004

Intro

John 16 occurs in the last few hours before Jesus is arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. Later that night He will be arrested and spend the night in mock trials and events that lead to the crucifixion.

But here Jesus gives the disciples words to encourage them through the storms to come.

Here, Jesus promises them that He will send the Holy Spirit and He will be a Helper to them. He is the Paraclete, the One who comes alongside. He is also the One who will dwell within them.

In these verses Jesus gives us insight into the coming of the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives and His role in the world.

I. He Convinces the Heart

A. Regarding sin

- He convinces the world regarding sin,
- Because they do not believe in Me.
- The natural state of man is to not believe in God. This is a result of the fall of man. The natural condition of man is to be self-focused and selfish.

John 15:22, 24 God sent His Son, but they hardened their hearts against Him.

- God sends the Holy Spirit to convince the world regarding sin. He presses God's love into their hearts so they can see their own sinfulness.

Illus – When Jesus was with Peter in the boat and Jesus told him to put out further from land let out the nets. There was a great catch of fish and then Peter realized who Jesus was, said, “Away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man.”

Romans 2:4, “Do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that the kindness of God leads you to repentance?”

B. Regarding righteousness

- He convinces the world of their need for righteousness...
- Because Jesus was going to the Father and they would no longer see Him.
- Righteousness is to live according to holiness.

Illus – Holiness is by another word, “wholeness.” There is nothing lacking in God. We fall short of God's glory and lack patience, goodness, kindness, love, peace, etc...

Sometimes people say, “Get yourself together, man.”
We don’t get ourselves together, the Spirit draws us
to God and God works “wholeness” into our lives.

Romans 1:16-17, I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “But the righteous man shall live by faith.”

C. Regarding judgment

- The Holy Spirit convinces the world concerning judgment...
- Because the ruler of this world has been judge.
- Jesus is clearly referring here to Satan, whom He calls the prince and the power of the air, the ruler of this world.

Ephesians 2:1-2, “And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.”

- Jesus is saying that Satan stands condemned; therefore, the Holy Spirit will convince the world of judgment.
- **In other words; because the course of this world has been judged along with its ruler, you can be set free from its fate. You do not have to share the same fate as the world.**

I John 2:16-17, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. The world is passing away, and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God lives forever.”

- The application of this also, is that we are not the ones who convince the world of these things.

II. He is the Spirit of Truth

A. He will guide you into all the truth

- He is not saying that the Spirit will guide you **into all truth; we are still going to have to study for math tests.**
- First, he was saying to the disciples that the Spirit will reveal to them the Words God wants written.

II Timothy 3:16-17, “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

- **He is also saying that the Holy Spirit will reveal the Word of God in our hearts.** He is the Spirit of truth.

Illus – When Peter gave that famous confession to Jesus about who He was, Jesus responded, “Flesh and

blood have not revealed this to you, Peter, but My Father who is in heaven.

I Corinthians 2:9-13 God reveals through His Spirit...

B. We will be changed by the truth

- The Spirit of Truth will also dwell within us and changes us by the truth.
- The truth is not just something to know, something to have; but rather, that we should become true.

John 8:31-32, So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

- And the Spirit gives us the truth so that our lives will then line up with the truth.
- Why? Because this is the best way to live.

Ephesians 4:23-24, “and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.”

Illus – We live in one of the most beautiful places on the earth and we live in a land that is free. People are free to choose any lifestyle they want.

So why are so many people miserable in their hearts?

God is offering peace with God and peace in our hearts.

Illus – I was talking to Joyce about dying and found someone who is completely at peace. “I always thought there was more that I needed to do. But now there is nothing that needs to be done, nothing more that God wants me to do. I am at peace. I can go home.”

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| III. The Spirit Will Point Us to Christ |
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A. Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life

- No man comes to the Father except through Christ, so the Holy Spirit draws us into relationship with Him.
- Jesus said, No one comes to Me unless the Father draws him.

1 Corinthians 12:3, “Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, ‘Jesus is accursed’; and no one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.”

- The Holy Spirit works in our hearts to draw us to Christ, because He is the way of God for salvation.

B. Whatever He hears, He speaks

- He does not speak on His own initiative, but whatever he hears, he speaks.
- **Jesus said the same thing of Himself...**

John 14:10-11, “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.”

- If only our words could be His words, and our deeds be His deeds.
- This is what gets us into so much trouble. We too often speak our words and do our own deeds.

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| Conclusion |
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The promise of the Holy Spirit was to be an encouragement to them for the storm that would soon come into their lives. May we also trust in God’s provision for us in the storms of life.