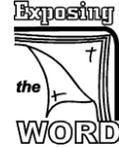




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The Gospel of **Verifying** John the MESSIAH

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36- The Promise of the Comforter *John 14:15-31; 16:5-15*

Jesus has had given words of comfort to the disciples in preparation for His departure back to the Father. We have looked at these in the last couple of session. Arguable, His greatest promise could be the one that is the subject of our discussion this session. It is the promise of the Comforter that would come if and when He went away.

Jesus introduces us to a new facet of the working of the Trinity in the lives of humanity. The Old Testament saints would occasionally be indwelt by the Spirit of God for a time and purpose. The apostles until this point had the Holy Spirit with them but not dwelling in them.

I- Promise of the Comforter:

Joh 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. The discourse on the coming of the Holy Spirit begins with an exhortation to keep the commandments. We also see the tie to the promise to the keeping of the commandment in ***Joh 14:21.***

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

The Holy Spirit is referred to only four times in the New Testament as Comforter. All of these are in John and in the context of our study this time. (***John 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7***) The same Greek word, *paracletos*, is used in ***1 John 2:1*** for Christ as our “Advocate” with the Father for us. ***My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate [paracletos] with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:***

This clearly shows us the tie between Christ and the Holy Spirit as Comforter and Advocate.

This is clearly seen in the meaning of Comforter give to us by *Thayer’s Greek Definitions.*

1) *summoned, called to one’s side, especially called to one’s aid*

1a) *one who pleads another’s cause before a judge, a pleader, counsel for defense, legal assistant, an advocate*

1b) *one who pleads another’s cause with one, an intercessor*

1b1) *of Christ in his exaltation at God’s right hand, pleading with God the Father for the pardon of our sins*

1c) *in the widest sense, a helper, succourer, aider, assistant*

1c1) *of the Holy Spirit destined to take the place of Christ with the apostles (after his ascension to the Father), to lead them to a deeper knowledge of the gospel truth, and give them divine strength needed to enable them to undergo trials and persecutions on behalf of the divine kingdom*

Jesus told them the same night a short time later recorded in ***Joh 16:5 But now I go my way to him that sent me; and none of you asketh me, Whither goest thou? 6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.***

II- Spirit of Truth:

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth;

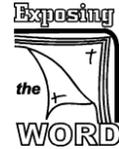
Jesus, remember had just told them that He was the Way, the Truth and the Life. Now the promise is that the Spirit would be the Spirit of Truth. I feel that ***Joh 15:26***



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gives us insight into this. ***But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:*** The truth of God's plan is wrapped up in the personage of Jesus Christ whom the Spirit testifies of.

Jesus next tells them that the world cannot know nor recognize this One that was to come. ***Joh 14:17b ...whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.***

We will see more about the Spirit of truth in a moment.

III- Manifest after Death:

Jesus, still in death preparation mode, tells them again of His impending death. ***Joh 14:19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. 20 At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.***

The promised coming of the Holy Spirit, which took place at Pentecost recorded in Acts 2. This coming of the Holy Spirit we are told here was a great verification of the Messiah.

Joh 14:21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Jesus tells them that after His death they would see Him. He would show Himself to them after His resurrection. He is seen in many ways in the lives of believers. In the power He gives to walk the daily Christian walk, in strength in time of hardships.

The promise He was giving them was even though He was going away it was not permanent. They did not understand this. ***Joh 14:22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?***

They were only thinking of physical sight manifestation. He did not understand how they would be able to see Him and not the other people. It is apparent that Jesus is talking about the Holy Spirit dwelling within believers.

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

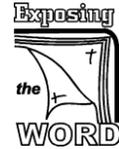
There is a clear statement here of the unity of the Godhead. If one dwells within us all dwell. The Holy Spirit may indwell us but He cannot be separated from the Father and Son. In this sense all three parts of the Godhead dwell within us.

IV- The Comforter Will Teach:

Jesus had been their teacher for the past few months and many of the things He had taught them they were not aware of. When the Holy Spirit would come He would bring things to their mind that they had heard Him speak.

Joh 14:25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

An additional thing that He would do was not only bring things to their minds but help them to see the meaning of them. ***1Co 2:14 says, But the natural man receiveth***



not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

This is a promise I feel to us today as believers as well. Most feel that they are not prepared to present spiritual truths. I challenge all of us to just make ourselves available and we will be amazed at how much the Holy Spirit will bring into our mind that we do not naturally recall.

The Holy Spirit is also teaching men of their need of Jesus Christ. Jesus spoke concerning this in ***Joh 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11 Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.***

Again we see that He is the Spirit of truth in relation to His ongoing ministry of teaching about Jesus.

Joh 16:12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

The heartbeat of the Holy Spirit is to glorify and point men and women to the Lord Jesus.

V- The Gift of Peace:

Joh 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. 28 Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I.

He spoke of giving them peace. Peace, why their world was going to turned upside down in the next few hours and days.

He tells them to not be afraid and their hearts not to be troubled. He told them even though He was going away but that what He had told them would sustain them.

The one who is the Prince of Peace (***Is 9:6***) gives them this parting benediction. He would greet them after the resurrection with ***“peace be unto you”*** in behind locked doors where they hide and He appeared. (See ***John 20:19, 21, 26***)

This reminds us that He has come to give peace to the hearts of men by restoring their relationship with God. Remember the angels said in ***Luk 2:14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.***

Joh 14:29 And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe.

Again, He states that the things that would come to pass would verify Him as Messiah. They would understand and believe later. The Holy Spirit, the Comforter is with us to verify Christ in our hearts as well. By faith.