

John 2021 #33 (1.16.21) #22005

John 16:1-15

The Spirit our Helper

I. Coming into God's life through Jesus Christ changes pretty much everything about us.

- A. We don't change ourselves—he does it. But it is truly a new life.
- B. It really is being “born again” of the Spirit. John 3

II. In the Farewell discourse Jesus taught his friends how New everything was really going to be now...

- A. The New Covenant. 14:6 (Luke 22:20)
 - 1. This new covenant supplies forgiveness, reconciliation, eternal life.
- B. The new relationship with God.
 - 1. As Father. 14:15-17 (16:26-28; 20:17)
 - 2. Because we have been added to God's own life through Christ.
- C. The New Commandment. (13:34-35)
 - 1. Loving as Jesus loved his friends.
 - 2. *The love within the Trinity is now regenerating fallen humans.*
- D. The new source of life. Himself. The Vine. 15:1-17
 - 1. Jesus Christ is actually the personal source of eternal life.
 - 2. We receive life through vital connection with him, the Vine.
- E. The new era of opposition (hatred). 15:18-27.
 - 1. Because the world hated me. 18
 - a) World = humanity in the natural, outside of God's grace.
 - 2. Because I chose you out of the world. (expats). 19
 - 3. Because you are learning from me instead of the world. 20-21
 - a) Matt.11:28-30; 1 Cor.2
 - 4. Because I have revealed the world's sin. 22-24
 - 5. Because scripture about me must be fulfilled. 25 (Ps 35:19)

III. Today: He promises a new supernatural Helper/Counselor/Advocate. 15:26-16:4. (Read All)

- A. He will strengthen you. With you and in you. 14:15-18
 - 1. Parakletos: 5 times in NT. John's writing.
 - a) Helper/Counselor/Mediator/Encourager/Advocate. Someone that is on your side and there to strengthen you, represent you.
 - 2. Note two really important things.
 - a) The Spirit is a Person (ekeinos-he)
 - b) The Spirit is unified with the Father and the Son—Trinitarian.
- B. He will be the main witness to the world through you. 15:26-27
 - 1. *The Spirit uses us, not the other way around.*
 - 2. *He works before us, after us, in us, and through us.*
- C. He will keep you from falling away. 16:1, 4 (Scandalized)
 - 1. *How? By bringing Christ's words to us and embedding His wisdom in us through his word. 15:7*
 - 2. I told you...He will remind you.
- D. He will sustain you when you lose your world membership. 16:2
 - 1. Put out of the synagogue. Losing your religion, your previous spiritual and cultural identity.
 - 2. Feeling like an expat/alien in your own world is very disorienting.

IV. Jesus teaches more on the Spirit/Paraklete. 16:4-15

- A. His presence is better for you. 4-7
 - 1. How can this be? The disciples have no way of understanding this.
 - 2. The Spirit is omnipresent, always with and in us.
 - 3. With us and in us. Prayer, fellowship, worship—all happening anywhere and anytime. He is with us when we gather. Matt.18:20

B. His message will convict the world. 8-11.

1. Conviction means to point out what's wrong so that it can be healed and corrected.
2. The Spirit will convict the world to bring people to Christ.
 - a) Sin: The world is wrong about sin.
 - (1) *They do not believe in me, the only one who can forgive sins!*
 - (2) Sin is anything God would not think, say, do. The world lives in this.
 - b) Righteousness: The world is wrong about what is right/wrong. (Very often)
 - (1) *I go to the Father and the Spirit continues to convict about:*
 - (2) False-Righteous: The world calls some things good what are bad and some things bad that are good. Abortion, Sexual immorality.
 - (3) Self-Righteous: They think they are righteous, but they are not. All human religions are self-righteous. Self-salvation projects.
 - c) Judgment: The world is wrong on the subject of judgment.
 - (1) *The main influencer (Satan) has been judged. So has his "world" system in general.*
 - (2) They "judge" the wrong things.
 - (3) They ignore eternal judgment.

C. His guidance will deepen your understanding of Me. 12-13

1. Not "new truth" but deeper understanding of The Truth: Gospel.
 - a) Walking with God in the grace of Christ
2. By guiding the Christ's gathering (the Church) into gospel wisdom, authentic discipleship, knowledge of God in Christ (1 Cor.2)
 - a) By conveying Christ's and the Father's will and wisdom.
 - b) By teaching us to obey the Lord and turn from sin.

D. His mission will be to glorify Me. 14-15

1. He will declare to you what I have, which is all that the Father has for you as well. Matt.11:25-30.
2. Not a separate or new message, but the same message the Father and Son have been speaking.
3. The Spirit is at work where the true gospel is being preached—who Jesus is and what he has done for humanity.

V. If the Spirit convicts the world and we are not of the world, what does that mean about us in the world?

A. It means that we must be already declared good in God's eyes when the Spirit enters us. How can God's Spirit enter and fill a sinful life??

1. John 7:37-39. The Glory of Christ is his death, burial, resurrection, ascension to the right hand of the Father. Matt.20:18-28
2. *This is what is so wonderful—that we are so completely forgiven by grace, through faith, that the Spirit can enter and regenerate us before we actually live up to God's goodness.*

B. It means that the things the Spirit convicts the world of have been changed in us by faith in Christ.

1. Sin has been forgiven and removed. Col.2:8-15.
 - a) He has forgiven us of our sin in Christ.
 - b) Our sins have been expunged and our record is clean,
2. Righteousness has been bestowed and enabled. Phil.3:7-10 (Rom.6-8)
 - a) The Spirit is perfectly comfortable in your life because you have the righteousness of Christ on you.
 - (1) *Even when he convicts us of sin!! He is not horrified or shocked.*
 - b) He is instructing us on what real goodness is. Eph.3-6
 - (1) *After learning what the Lord has done for us, we are exhorted to live in the Spirit and obey.*
3. Judgement has been absorbed and explained. Jn.5:24; Rom.8:1-4
 - a) He has delivered us from condemnation and the fear of death. 1 Cor.15:53-58
4. *Who doesn't want these things to be true, a real, safe, eternal relationship with God in Christ?*

VI. Pastoral Advice. Lean into and trust the Spirit to fill and grow you up.

A. The Spirit life in Christ is supernatural, but not “magic.”

1. Magic is the manipulation of supernatural powers for our benefit and desires.
2. The work of God the Spirit is not magic. He uses us. We do not use Him.

B. The Spirit life in Christ is empowering, but not overpowering. Rom.12:1-2

1. We need to rest and cooperate, not expect a drug-induced euphoria.

C. The Spirit life in Christ is ultimately victorious, but not currently painless.

1. There is struggle, pressure, and all the sorrow of living in a fallen world.
2. The health/wealth, motivational speaker type Christian message is not the gospel.

D. The Spirit life in Christ is available, but not automatic. Jn.1:12-13.

1. Humans are not born in God to begin with. That’s why Jesus said we need to be born again by the Spirit. Come to Christ! The Spirit is drawing you to Christ, and you must come to receive all of this life.