



Calvary of Albuquerque

Two Thirds Is Not Enough - John 15:26-16:15

From the Series, Believe:879

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

We love God the Father who created us and God the Son who redeemed us, but what about the Holy Spirit? We hear His name a lot, but who is He? What exactly does He do? What does He want from us? The Holy Spirit is the "quiet One," active in the life of believers but sometimes not acknowledged as being vital. Oswald Chambers noted, "The Holy Spirit cannot be located as a guest in a house. He invades everything!" Today, we consider Him and His role in our lives.

OUTLINE

- I. The Holy Spirit is a Person
- II. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person
- III. The Holy Spirit is a Discreet Person
- IV. The Holy Spirit is a Helpful Person
- V. The Holy Spirit is a Dynamic Person



Personal Questions about the Holy Spirit:

1. What role does the Holy Spirit play in your life, as described by the names given to Him in this passage? How have you personally experienced these roles?
2. How does the Holy Spirit take what is Jesus' and declare it to you? What are these things, and how have you benefited?
3. What are the telltale signs of someone who is genuinely filled with the Holy Spirit?

DETAILED NOTES

- I. Introduction
 - A. The Holy Spirit is the most mysterious, misunderstood, neglected member of the triune Godhead
 - B. "Sadly, many Christians settle for two-thirds of God...God the Father is way up there somewhere, aloof and apart from their daily lives. Christ is out there somewhere between them and the Father. The Holy Spirit is some kind of vague force or impersonal power that they hear about but do not know intimately." --Lloyd John Ogilvie
 - C. Context
 1. Last night before the crucifixion
 2. Jesus on the way from the Upper Room to the Garden of Gethsemane
 3. Teaching His 11 disciples, who are worried, sorrowful
 4. To offset their sorrow:
 - a. Jesus demonstrates His love for them (John 13)
 - i. Washes their feet
 - ii. Tells them to love one another
 - b. Details His promises (John 14)
 - i. He goes to prepare a place for them
 - ii. He will come again
 - iii. They can pray to the Father in His name
 - iv. They will do greater works
 - v. Peace
 - vi. Joy
 5. He warns them: He has enemies who hate His friends
 6. They don't have to face the hostile world in their own power: He will send the Holy Spirit, who will live within them and empower them
 - D. Every day, some Christians try to live victorious lives without the power and agency of the Holy Spirit
 - E. Not always easy to understand God

1. Father
 - a. We all have fathers, mostly good
 - b. We need for our external life
 - c. Creator
2. Son
 - a. Some are sons
 - b. We understand the parent/child relationship
 - c. We need for internal life
 - d. Savior
3. Holy Spirit
 - a. We need for internal life
 - b. Power and strength

II. The Holy Spirit is a Person

A. Not an "It," a He

1. In this passage there are 13 personal pronouns referring to the Holy Spirit
2. Personal pronouns reserved for persons
3. Not a force
4. No respectable version of the Bible ever refers to the Spirit of God as "It"

B. Throughout church history, some refer to the Holy Spirit as a force

1. Arian heresy: The Spirit of God is not a person but an essence. 318 AD Arius (Response: Nicene Creed, 325 AD)
2. Jehovah witness: "The holy spirit is not an intelligent person. It is the impersonal, invisible active force that finds its source and reservoir in Jehovah God."
3. Mormons: A separate force God uses to accomplish His purpose
4. Christian Science (Mary Baker Eddy [Glover Patterson Fry]): The holy spirit is an impersonal principal: the divine science within Christian Science

C. Holy Spirit has personal attributes

1. He testifies (See John 15:26)
2. He convicts (See John 16:8)
3. He guides, speaks, tells (See John 16:13)
4. He takes, declares (See John 16:14)
5. He has a mind (See Romans 8:27)
6. He has a will (See 1 Corinthians 12:11)
7. He Shows love (See Romans 15:30)
8. He prays (See Romans 8:26)
9. He can be grieved (See Ephesians 4:30)
10. He can be insulted (See Hebrews 10:29)
11. He can be lied to (See Acts 5)
12. He can be quenched (See 1 Thessalonians 5)

D. "They are reaching out after, and struggling to get, possession of some mysterious and mighty power that they can make use of in their work according to their own will. They will never get possession of the power they seek until they come to recognize that there is not some Divine power for them to get hold of and use in their blindness and ignorance, but that there is a Person, infinitely wise, as well as infinitely mighty, who is willing to take possession of them and use them according to His own perfect will. When we stop to think of it, we must rejoice that there is no Divine power that beings so ignorant as we are, so liable to err, can get hold of and use. How appalling might be the results if there were."--R.A. Torrey

1. Not: How can I get more of the Holy Spirit?
2. Rather: How can the Holy Spirit Get more of me?

III. The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person

A. Holy Spirit is God

1. Third person of the Trinity
2. Co-eternal, co-equal
3. "And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters." (Genesis 1:2)
4. "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost." (*Doxology*, Thomas Ken)

B. Throughout history, some have denied His Deity

1. Sabellias: Modalism (1 God, 3 names to serve His own purpose)
2. However: The Holy Spirit comes from the Father, is sent by the Son, and dispatched to the world
3. Oneness Pentecostals ascribe to modalism

C. "But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.'" (Acts 5:1-4)

1. Lied to Holy Spirit (v. 3)
2. Lied to God (v. 4)

IV. The Holy Spirit is a Discreet Person

A. Inconspicuous: Doesn't draw attention to Himself

B. Points people to Jesus

1. "He will testify of Me." (John 15:26)

2. "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me;" (John 16:8-9)
 3. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you." (John 16:14)
 4. Like a stage director; spotlight shines on the main character: Jesus Christ
- C. A good test of a group, person, or church: What do they emphasize?
- V. The Holy Spirit is a Helpful Person
- A. Called "The Helper" in this passage: (See John 16:7)
 1. Παράκλητος; paraklétos - one called alongside to help
 2. Amplified Bible: One who is called to stand by you constantly and take part in anything in which His help is needed
 - B. D.L. Moody: Speaking to a large audience, D.L. Moody held up a glass and asked, "How can I get the air out of this glass?" One man shouted, "Suck it out with a pump!" Moody replied, "That would create a vacuum and shatter the glass." After numerous other suggestions Moody smiled, picked up a pitcher of water, and filled the glass. "There," he said, "all the air is now removed." He then went on to explain that victory in the Christian life is not accomplished by "sucking out a sin here and there," but by being filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - C. How He helps
 1. He guides: directs into all truth
 2. We cannot understand Scripture without Him
 - D. Inspiration
 1. God enabled select men to write down what He wanted to say
 2. It is complete
 - E. Illumination
 1. Bible is a closed book, unless the Holy Spirit shines light on it
 2. "And they said to one another, 'Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?'" (Luke 24:32)
 3. All truth (v.13)
 - a. Not generic truth
 - b. την αλήθειας the truth
 - a. specific truth, centralized on Jesus
 - b. The New Testament
- VI. The Holy Spirit is a Dynamic Person
- A. Give us power to:
 1. Testify: "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me." (v. 26)
 2. Bear Witness "And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning." (v. 27)
 - B. "And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, 'which,' He said, 'you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'" (Acts 1:4-5)
 - C. "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8) Δύναμις; dunamis- power
 - D. Peter
 1. Prior to the resurrection and Pentecost: a timid fisherman. He denied Christ before a servant girl
 2. After the resurrection and Pentecost: boldly preaching
 3. "Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit," (Acts 4:8)
 - E. We are baptized with the Holy Spirit when we believe
 - F. We are commanded to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit: "Be filled with the Spirit," (Ephesians 5:18)

Greek Terms: Παράκλητος; paraklétos - one called alongside to help; την αλήθειας the truth; Δύναμις; dunamis- power;
 Figures Referenced: Lloyd John Ogilvie; Arius; Mary Baker Eddy (Glover Patterson Fry); R.A. Torrey; Sabellias; D.L. Moody
 Publications Referenced: *Doxology*, Thomas Ken

Cross References: Genesis 1:2; Luke 24:32; John 13; John 14; Acts 1:4-5; Acts 1:8; Acts 4:8; Acts 5:1-4; Acts 5; Romans 8:26; Romans 8:27; Romans 15:30; 1 Corinthians 12:11; Ephesians 4:30; Ephesians 5:18; 1 Thessalonians 5; Hebrews 10:29