



Calvary of Albuquerque

The Holy Hound of Heaven - John 16:5-11

From the Series, Believe:879

By Pastor Skip Heitzig

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Having understood Who the Holy Spirit is (Person not just power; Deity not just dignitary) we now find out what He does in the world of unbelieving people. Since the greatest gift God ever gave to the world was His only Son (John 3:16) it stands to reason that the greatest sin one can commit is to reject the Son (John 16:9). How does the Holy Spirit both sentence the world as prosecutor and lead people away from judgment? And what role do we play in all of this?

OUTLINE

- I. His Necessity is Undeniable (vv. 5-7)
 - A. Jesus Would be Leaving
 - B. The Spirit Will be Leading
- II. His Activity is Unmistakable (vv. 8-11)
 - A. Convicts the World of Sin
 - B. Convicts the World of Righteousness
 - C. Convicts the World of Judgment
- III. His Agency is Unremarkable (vv. 7-8)



More Stuff

1. How does the Holy Spirit convict people in the three areas we read? What role do you play in all this? What does this say about the relationship between the Holy Spirit and believers?
2. Christians often pine about how wonderful it would've been to live with Jesus in the flesh. But in light of verse, why is it better just the way it is?
3. Jesus in the flesh. But in light of verse, why is it better just the way it is? How have you seen the Holy Spirit at work opening minds and hearts of people around you?

DETAILED NOTES

- I. Introduction
 - A. The Hound of Heaven
 1. Poem written in the 1800s
 2. By Francis Thompson
 - a. His father wanted him to be a doctor
 - b. He didn't want to be
 - c. Enrolled in medical school
 - d. Addicted to opium
 - e. Attempted suicide
 - f. Referred to the Holy Spirit as the "Hound of Heaven"
 - B. How the Holy Spirit works
 1. Draws people
 2. Reveals their need
 3. Shows that their need is met in Jesus Christ
 4. "The Maker of all human beings is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of the make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units, code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically

termed, "Sub-sequential Internal Non-morality," or more commonly known by its initials as "SIN".

Symptoms include: Loss of direction; foul vocal emissions; amnesia of origin; lack of peace and joy; selfish, violent behavior; depression or confusion in the mental component; and rebellion.

The Manufacturer is providing factory authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this SIN defect. The Repair Technician, Jesus, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required. Call toll-free the number: P-R-A-Y-E-R. Once connected, please upload your SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure. Next, download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician into the heart component.

As an added upgrade, the Manufacturer has made available to all repaired units direct monitoring and assistance from the resident Maintenance Technician, the HOLY SPIRIT.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids the Manufacturer's warranty, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded.

II. His Necessity is Undeniable (5-7)

A. Jesus Would be Leaving

1. Sorrow filled the disciples' hearts
 - a. Πληρώω; pléroó - filled to capacity
 - b. Anxiety controlled their thought processes
 - c. Their best friend is leaving
2. Not what they expected
 - a. Expected eschatology
 - i. Before Messiah, turmoil (Roman occupation)
 - ii. Before Messiah, Elijah-like forerunner (John the Baptist)
 - iii. Arrival of Messiah
 - a. Defeat of enemies
 - b. Establish His kingdom
 - iv. Scattered Jews return to Israel, and Jerusalem established in peace
 - b. Jews believed they were between stages 2-3
3. Focused on what they were losing instead of what they were gaining
 - a. Unbelievers do that
 - i. Can't give life to Christ, I'll lose my friends; will gain a Friend who sticks closer than a brother
 - ii. I'll lose my old life; will gain eternal, everlasting, abundant life
 - b. "He is no fool to give up what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose."--Jim Elliot

B. The Spirit Will be Leading

1. When you lose something, God replaces it with something better: "So Jesus answered and said, "Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My sake and the gospel's, who shall not receive a hundredfold now in this time--houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions--and in the age to come, eternal life." (Mark 10:29-30)
2. The disciples will need Him
 - a. To mitigate their sorrow
 - b. To fulfill their calling: "And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.'" (Mark 16:15)
 - i. Enormous
 - ii. Impossible

III. His Activity is Unmistakable (8-11)

A. Convicts the World of Sin

1. Convinces people that they are sinners
 - a. No one looks for a Savior, unless they need one
 - b. Only sinners need a Savior
2. Most people need convincing
 - a. Don't admit they are sinners
 - b. Don't even like the term "sin"
 - c. Deny sin exists
 - d. Blame shift
 - i. Environment
 - ii. Genetics
3. God's job, not yours
 - a. When we try to convict, it sounds like condemnation
 - b. Peter filled with Holy Spirit: " Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart," (Acts 2:37)
4. Sin: singular, not plural
 - a. Not particular sins: conscience handles that
 - b. Sin of unbelief
 - i. Most don't see unbelief as a sin
 - ii. Think unbelief marks them as intelligent
 - iii. Worst of all sin: prevents forgiveness of all other sins
 - iv. Only the Holy Spirit can convict of the sin of unbelief

B. Convicts the World of Righteousness

1. The Holy Spirit convinces people they aren't good enough
2. World has its own relative righteousness
 - a. Like degrees on a thermometer
 - b. Hope God will grade on a curve
 - i. Better than some
 - ii. "We try harder"

3. Jesus demonstrated the righteousness God accepts
 - a. "Which of you convicts Me of sin?" (John 8:46)
 - b. "For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)
 - c. "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect." (Matthew 5:48)
 - d. "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts." (Isaiah 6:5)
 4. We cannot brag about our own righteousness when we stand next to The Righteous One
 - a. When Jesus died, rose, and ascended to heaven it was as if God said, "This is the righteousness I accepts"
 - b. Only the righteousness He provides is enough
 - c. Paul: "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;" (Philippians 3:7-9)
- C. Convicts the World of Judgment
1. Convinces that judgment is real
 - a. We are liable if we reject God's solution
 - b. We are liable if we reject God's righteousness
 2. When Jesus died Satan's doom was sealed
 - a. He hasn't been sentenced yet
 - b. Those who follow him, end up destroyed
 3. Good to be worried about the coming judgment
 - a. It's not good to push away conviction
 - b. Those on the Titanic who said to the iceberg warning, "Shut up! We're busy!"
- IV. His Agency is Unremarkable (7-8)
- A. The Holy Spirit convicts using human channels
 - B. Make yourself available to His work
 - C. Every conversion in Acts uses a human agent
 1. Peter on the day of Pentecost
 2. Saul had a vision
 - a. He had "kicked against the goads" (See Acts 9:5)
 - b. Heard Stephen's testimony
 - c. Witnessed Stephen's death
 - D. Although God does miracles, he normally uses human agents
 - E. Normal people
 - a. Peter: fisherman, high strung, easily angered
 - b. James and John: wanted to call down fire from heaven (See Luke 9:54)
 - c. Thomas: negative
 - d. "But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;" (1 Corinthians 1:27)
 - e. "You are writing a Gospel, a chapter a day,
By the deeds that you do and the words that you say.
Men read what you write—distorted or true;
What is the Gospel according to you?" -- Anonymous

Greek terms: Πληρώω; pléroó - filled to capacity

Figures Referenced: Jim Elliot, Jack Nicklaus, Gerald Ford, Billy Graham

Publications Referenced: "Important! Recall Notice," Unknown; "The Gospel According to You," Anonymous

Cross References: Isaiah 6:5; Matthew 5:20; Matthew 5:48; Mark 10:29-30; Mark 16:15; Luke 9:54; John 3:16; John 8:46; Acts 2:37; Acts 9:5; 1 Corinthians 1:27; Philippians 3:7-9