

## Sermon Series: *The Person & the Work of the Holy Spirit*

Text read by Susan Piper via mobile phone

### He Will Glorify Me

#### John 16:5-15 (ESV)

- 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, Where are you going?  
6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.  
7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.  
8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:  
9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;  
10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;  
11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.  
12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.  
13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.  
14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.  
15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.



Last week we prayed for that Arua would see an end to the drought and that the Lord would grant rain. This week the Lord answered that prayer. Andy email me this picture. This is a picture of rain! This is a direct answer to prayer. Andy ended his email by asking, "Since God answers prayer, what should we as a church be praying about next?"

The answer to that is that we should be praying for David King. As you know David graduated from Gordon-Conwell two weeks ago and this week he will be earnestly seeking the Lord's will for him and his family. Lets pray that the Lord will speaking clearly to David and make His good will known.

#### John 16:5-7 (ESV)

- 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, Where are you going?  
6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.  
7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

Jesus said he was "**going to him who sent me.**" Who was that? Who sent Him?

#### John 16:28 (ESV)

*I came from the Father and have come in the world, and now I am leaving the world and going to the Father.*

He was returning to God the Father (see 7:33). He also says the same in **16:10** (cf. Jn 14:12). This news left the disciples filled with grief and sorrow had filled their hearts. Yet, Jesus said that ultimately this was good news for them.

## I. The **Spiritual** presence of the Holy Spirit is better than the **physical** presence of Jesus. (v.7)

It was better for Jesus to go to the Father so that the Helper (i.e. Holy Spirit, cf. Jn 14:26) could come to come to the disciples. The Helper, the Holy Spirit would dwell **within** the disciples. **It is far better to have the spiritual presence of the Holy Spirit dwelling within you than the physical presence of Jesus standing beside you.** We dealt with this particular truth on 27 March at the beginning of this series.

Recall that we learned that **the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus** (Acts 16:6-7; Rom 8:9; Gal 4:6; Phil 1:19; 1 Ptr 1:11). The two are one!

### **Romans 8:9** (ESV)

*You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.*

**To have the Holy Spirit dwelling with in you is to have the Spirit of Jesus dwelling within you.** This is how Jesus was able to say, “**I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you,**” (John 14:18) while at the same time telling them that He was leaving. Jesus would personally come to the disciples through the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit.

## The Blessing of Living Post-Pentecost

This promise is now granted to every person who believes in Jesus because Jesus has ascended into heaven and because He poured out His Spirit upon all believers on the day of Pentecost. Therefore, we can confidently say that **it is better to have the Spirit of Jesus within you than the body of Jesus beside you.**

John Keble (1792-1866) in 1827 wrote,

My Saviour, can it ever be,  
That I should gain by losing thee?<sup>1</sup>

The answer is, “Yes!”

Great is our gain,  
through our Sweet Savior’s loss,  
He bore our sinful pain,  
on death’s cruel cross.

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<sup>1</sup> John Keble, *The Christian Year* (1827), “Fourth Sunday After Easter,” available at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/4272.html.gen> accessed 27 May 2011.

## II. When Jesus returns to the Father, He will send the Helper. (v.7)

Jesus will send the Helper. “...but if I go, I will send Him to you.” After Jesus returns to the Father, He will then send the Holy Spirit to the disciples.

- Jn 14:16 *I will ask the Father and He will send you another Helper to be with you forever.*
- Jn 14:26 *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.*
- Jn 15:26 *But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about me.*

The fact that both the Father (14:26) and the Son (14:16; 15:26) are active in sending the Holy Spirit is another pointer to the unity of the three persons of the Trinity. Jesus asks the Father to send the Spirit. The Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Father then sends the Spirit through Jesus in the name of Jesus. All three are working jointly and cooperatively, to put the Holy Spirit of the Most Holy God into the soul man.

## He Will Convict the World Concerning; Sin, Righteousness, & Judgment (v.8)

**John 16:8-11 (ESV)**

- 8 *And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:*  
9 *concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;*  
10 *concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;*  
11 *concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

### Convict (v.8)

The word “convict” (*elenchō*). The KJV translates this as “reprove,” which is much too weak. The stronger sense of the word “used in religious contexts means something like ‘to bring someone to an acknowledgment of personal guilt.’”<sup>2</sup> “The verb occurs eighteen times<sup>3</sup> in the New Testament. Arguably, in every instance the verb has to do with showing [i.e. exposing cf. Jn 3:20] someone his sin, usually as a summons to repentance.”<sup>4</sup>

“The word is a legal term that means to pronounce a judicial verdict by which the guilt of the culprit at the bar of justice is defined and fixed. The Spirit does not merely accuse men of sin, he brings to them an inescapable sense of guilt so that they realize their shame and helplessness before God. The Spirit is the prosecuting attorney who presents God’s case against humanity. He creates an inescapable awareness of sin so that it cannot be dismissed with an excuse or evaded by taking refuge in the fact that “everybody is doing it.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> D. A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John* (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, Mich.: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans, 1991), 534.

<sup>3</sup> Mt. 18:15; Lk. 3:19; Jn. 3:20; 8:46; 1 Cor. 14:24; Eph. 5:11, 13; 1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Tim. 4:2; Tit. 1:9, 13; 2:15; Heb. 12:5; Jas. 2:9; Jude 15, 22; Rev. 3:19.

<sup>4</sup> D. A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John* (Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, Mich.: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans, 1991), 534.

<sup>5</sup> Frank E. Gaebelin, Merrill C. Tenney and Richard N. Longenecker, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 9: John and Acts* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1981), 157.

“But *convict* or *convince* is the thing intended; and as the one expresses the work of the Spirit on the *unbelieving* portion of mankind, and the other on the *believing*, it is better not to restrict it to either.”<sup>6</sup>

Both ‘convict’ and ‘convince’ are in view in this word. The Holy Spirit will do both. He will ‘convict’ the world of sin, i.e. pronounce a guilty verdict and He will ‘convince’ the world that they truly are guilty of that of which they have been ‘convicted.’ It is possible to be ‘convicted’ of a crime without being ‘convinced’ that one has indeed committed a crime.

The result of this work will be two; either tender-hearted repentance or continued hard-hearted rebellion.

One example of this convicting and convincing work is Peter’s sermon in Acts 2. Peter presented the evidence related to Jesus and they were convicted. They then asked, “what shall we do?” Peter said, “Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit!” Three thousand were convinced and were baptized.

## The World

The word translated “world” (*kosmos*, κόσμος) is used by John 78 times in this gospel compared to eight in Matthew and three in both Mark and Luke.<sup>7</sup> and, in John, carries three meanings, 1) the “created universe” (1:9, 10), 2) the “universe inhabited by humankind” (12:19), and 3) “fallen, sinful humanity in darkness” (e.g. 3:16).<sup>8</sup> Also in John the term can also refer to “unbelieving Jews and their leaders.”<sup>9</sup>

## The Holy Spirit At Work in Three Arenas

The Holy Spirit will be at work in the world among unbelievers convincing and convicting in regard to three different arenas; sin, righteousness, and judgment.

### III. The Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning **sin**. (v.9)

Jesus, in verse 9, gives us a little commentary on what exactly He means by sin.

**John 16:9** (ESV)

... *concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;*

## Sin

He says, ‘sin,’ not ‘sins.’ It is singular not plural. What particular sin is in view? The particular sin in view is that “*they do not believe in me.*” Who is the ‘me?’ Well, Jesus is speaking, so **the particular sin that the Holy Spirit will expose is the sin of failing to believe in Jesus.** No other sins are mentioned.

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<sup>6</sup> Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset, A. R. Fausset et al., *A Commentary, Critical and Explanatory, on the Old and New Testaments* (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), Jn 16:8.

<sup>7</sup> Andreas J. Köstenberger, *John*, Baker exegetical commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004), 35.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., 36.

<sup>9</sup> Colin Kruse, *The Tyndale New Testament Commentary, Volume 4: John* ed. Leon Morris (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004), 330.

This does not mean that no other sins are sinful. They are, but the sin that will be the highest priority of the Holy Spirit will be the sin of rejecting Jesus.

Whenever you are telling someone who Jesus really is, whenever you are “bearing witness” about Jesus, and explaining His life and ministry know that the Holy Spirit will be at work in the listener convicting and convincing. They may reject at that moment, but the Holy Spirit will be at work. Jesus was quite clear throughout His life that He had been particularly anointed and sent by God the Father and to reject Him was tantamount to rejecting the Creator God. **To disbelieve and reject Jesus is to disbelieve and reject God.**

**John 3:18** (ESV)

*18 Whoever believes in [Jesus] is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.*

**John 3:36** (ESV)

*36 Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

**John 5:23** (ESV)

*Whoever does not honor the Son, does not honor the Father who sent Him.*

**John 8:24** (ESV)

*“I told you that you would die in your sins, for unless you believe that I am he you will die in your sins.”*

**John 15:23**

*“Whoever hates me hates my Father also.”*

**John 15:24:**

*“If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father.”*

The heart of sin is unbelief. The essence of sin is a failure to believe that what God has spoken is truth. The fullest expression of all that God has said is the person of Jesus, God’s only Son. Jesus is the Word incarnate. To reject Jesus is to call God a liar. The Holy Spirit is at work in the world testifying that Jesus is true, that He is who He claimed to be. And it is an eternal sin to reject the testimony of the Holy Spirit in relation to whom Jesus is. Refusing to believe in Jesus is a sin that will never be forgiven.

#### IV. The Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning **righteousness**. (v.10)

The second arena of the convicting and convincing work of the Holy Spirit is concerning righteousness.

**John 16:10** (ESV)

*“... concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;*

### Righteousness

What the world considers “righteous” is completely opposite of what God considers “righteous.” “That which is highly esteemed in the eyes of man is an abomination in the eyes of God” (Lk 16:15).

In Jesus is no sin (1 Jn 3:5; 1 Ptr 2:22) and yet that is exactly the opposite of what the world thought. They thought He was cursed by God. Jesus always told the truth and yet the world thought Him a blasphemer and a liar. The world thought Him so dangerous that He needed to be executed and so they nailed Him to a cross and ended His life.

Jesus’ resurrection and ascension to the Father are proof that He was (and is) indeed righteous and accepted by God, otherwise he would have remained dead. The world’s idea of righteousness is very different from God’s idea of righteousness. The Holy Spirit, then, will convict and convince the world in regard to true righteousness. He will reveal the faulty basis for all that the world would call “righteous” while at the same time revealing true righteousness—Jesus.

While Jesus was here on earth, He revealed the hypocrisy of the religious leaders and demonstrated what true righteousness is. The Holy Spirit will continue that ministry.

- better to obey the sabbath traditions of man or on the Sabbath heal a man who has been paralyzed?
- better to attend a worship service or stop and help a family whose car is broken down?
- better to give all your money to church and thereby refuse to care for aging parents?

If Jesus was a sinner, He would still be dead and in the tomb. And if His body was still in the tomb, I guarantee someone would have found it and put it on display to easily disprove all that Jesus said. If His dead body was anywhere on this planet Satan would have seen to it long ago that some Judas would have dug it up and lay Him in state under a glass coffin in downtown Jerusalem.

Yet His body is nowhere to be found because **He has gone to the Father**. And the Holy Spirit will testify to His righteousness because only holy people are raised from the dead and taken into heaven. The Holy Spirit will convince the world of this truth and they will either become increasingly hard-hearted and reject this truth or they will be humbled and believe this truth.

## V. The Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning **judgment**. (v.11)

The third arena of the Holy Spirit’s convicting and convincing work is concerning judgment.

**John 16:11** (ESV)

... *concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

The phrase ‘ruler of this world,’ refers to Satan (cf. Jn 12:31; Jn 14:30; 2 Cor 4:4; Eph 2:2).

**1 John 5:19** (ESV)

... *the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.*

**2 Cor 4:4** (ESV)

... *the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

The Holy Spirit will convince the world that all sin will be condemned. The judgment against sin has been given. The head sinner has been condemned. If Satan, has been judged as the spiritual head of



all rebellion against God and he has been condemned, then all sinners who follow him will also be judged.

If the strongest opponent has been conquered then the demise of all his followers will come soon. If the rebel capitol has been taken, then it is simply a matter of time before all the rebel troops are taken in. If God did not allow the first sinner to escape, then He will most certainly not allow the last sinner to escape judgment. Judgment against all sinners is coming. The Holy Spirit will convince the world of this fact and will strike fear into the heart of man. This is why so many unbelievers fear death, because there is the inner testimony of the Holy Spirit convincing them that judgment awaits them.

- Paul Higgins - “you’re not afraid to die. I am.”
- Diane hospice nurse can tell who knows believes in Jesus and who does not by the way they die.
- **Heb 2:14** ... through death he [Jesus] might destroy the one who has the power of death, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

**John 16:33** (ESV)

*“In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world.”*

**John 7:24** (ESV)

*Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.* (Everyone knows Matt 7:1 “Judge not, and you will not be judged.”)

**John 16:12-15** (ESV)

<sup>12</sup> *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.*

<sup>13</sup> *When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

<sup>14</sup> *He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*

<sup>15</sup> *All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.*

Notice that Jesus says, “he will guide you.” Again, John is reminding us of the personhood of the Holy Spirit. He, the Helper, is a personal guide. In the Greek, the word translated ‘spirit’ (πνεῦμα) is neuter, yet Jesus consistently uses the masculine pronoun when referring to the Holy Spirit. He reminds us again and again that He is a person and should be referred to in personal terms. And if we would follow Jesus’ example we will refer to the Spirit with the masculine pronoun and not the feminine as some people are wont to do today.

## VI. The Holy Spirit will not speak on His own authority. (v.13)

He will not speak on His own authority (neither did Jesus). The Holy Spirit is “another” parakletos, “another” Helper of the same kind as the first Helper. He is another Helper just like Jesus. Just as Jesus only spoke what He heard from the Father so too will be the Holy Spirit. He will only speak whatever He hears.

**John 7:16:** So Jesus answered them, *“My teaching is not mine, but his who sent me 17: If anyone's will is to do God's will, he will know whether the teaching is from God or whether I am*

*speaking on my own authority. 18 The one who speaks on his own authority seeks his own glory, but the one who seeks the glory of him who sent him is true, and in him there is no falsehood.*

**John 8:28** So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me.

**John 12:48** The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. **49** For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. **50** And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

**John 14:10** 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 authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

He will declare things that are to come.

“The verb ἀναγγέλλω (*anangellō*, proclaim), which is used thrice in 16:13–15, occurs over forty times in the Book of Isaiah (cf. R. Brown 1970: 708, citing Young 1955: 224–26), where declaring things to come is the exclusive domain of Yahweh (48:14). A close parallel to the present passage is Isa. 44:7 where Yahweh challenges anyone to declare the things to come (cf. 42:9; 46:10). Another striking parallel is found in 41:21–29 (esp. vv. 22–23; see also 45:19).”<sup>10</sup>

## VII. The Holy Spirit will **glorify** Jesus. (v.14)

Jesus glorified God the Father during His earthly ministry. Likewise the Holy Spirit will glorify God the Son during His earthly ministry.

Mark 2 - Jesus healed the paralytic brought to him on a cot and let down before him through the roof. The crowd “glorified God” saying, “We have never seen anything like this” (Mk 2:12).

The goal of the Holy Spirit is to bring glory to Jesus, not to Himself. The Holy Spirit has been called the “shy” member of the Trinity. He brings no attention to Himself, but focuses all attention on Jesus in order to bring Him glory. We need to remember this and do likewise. The Holy Spirit never says, “Look at Me.” The Holy Spirit says, “Look to Jesus.” The Holy Spirit points all men to Jesus.

Why? Because there is salvation in no other name under heaven. No one is saved by putting faith in the Holy Spirit. Salvation comes by putting faith in Jesus. This sentence, that the Holy Spirit will glorify Jesus, is the clearest summary statement of all the work of the Holy Spirit.

- He comforts in sorrow because Jesus has overcome the world.
- He convicts concerning sin because the greatest sin is rejecting Jesus.
- He convicts concerning righteousness because is the only perfectly righteous person who has ever lived.

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<sup>10</sup> Andreas J. Köstenberger, *John*, Baker exegetical commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004), 473 footnote 55.



- He convicts concerning judgment because God has handed over to Jesus all judgment (Jn 5:22, 24, 27, 30; 8:16; 9:39; 12:31).
- He guides into all truth because Jesus is truth (Jn 14:6).
- He illuminates all that Jesus has already spoken. He will declare or expound all the truth of what Jesus has already spoken.
- He is the perpetual pointer of men to Jesus.

Memorial Day is tomorrow. Memorial day began as a day to remember all who have died in battle so that we might continue to live in freedom. It has been expanded to remember all who have died while in active military service of this country. Is it not appropriate that we remember the One who died in the greatest spiritual battle ever fought so that we might enjoy eternal life?

The Holy Spirit would have us glorify Jesus.