

IN THE BEGGINNING WAS THE
WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH
GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD.

the gospel of

JOHN

John 14:18-26

Introduction

Last time we started looking at the ministry of the Holy Spirit. We want to continue that study this morning.

Last time we saw that the Holy Spirit was:

1. “Another” Helper / Comforter
2. The Spirit of Truth
3. He indwells the believer

John 14:18-26

I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. 19 “A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. 20 At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. 21 He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” 23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me. 25 “These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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 things that I said to you.”

The Holy Spirit: The Personal Presence of Christ

John 14:18-20

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Notice the tenderness of Jesus towards His own. He was leaving, and He knew the turmoil that His followers would face. He was going to send the Holy Spirit, which is the personal presence of Christ. Note four points.

1. Jesus said, “I will come to you.” He meant that He would return after He had died. He would come back to give believers His personal presence. He would not leave them orphaned and helpless to struggle through the trials of life alone.

Jesus' presence with His followers began with His resurrection and with the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was saying that He would come to the believer in the person of the Holy Spirit.

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1. The world lost its opportunity to see Jesus. He said that He would be present for only a short time longer, then the world would see Him “no more.”

The next time the world sees Him, He will be coming in judgment.

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3. The presence of Jesus is a living, eternal presence. He died, but He did not stay dead. He arose and conquered death. He arose to live forever. Think about this - if Jesus Christ is living forever and He dwells within the believer, then the believer lives eternally.

In fact, when Jesus says “I live,” He means He lives life in all of its full meaning. Therefore, by living within the believer, Christ imparts the same kind of life to the believer, a life that is both abundant and eternal.

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4. The presence of Christ is a living union, a mutual indwelling between God, Christ, and the believer. “At that day” refers to Jesus’ resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Now note: when Jesus arose from the dead, believers knew something. His claim was true in an absolute sense. Jesus really was “in” the Father. Something else was known. All that Jesus had said was true. He was placing all believers “in” Himself and Himself “in” them; or to say it another way, when the Holy Spirit came, believers were placed “in” His Spirit and His Spirit “in” them.

The Holy Spirit: Christ's Presence in the Believer

John 14:21-22

“He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”
22Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?”

The Holy Spirit is the very special manifestation of Christ within the believer. There are times when we feel God's presence and love in very unique and personal ways. Often when we are going through dark and desperate times and we attempt to keep our focus on Him, He comforts us and lets us know His love.

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Note that the special manifestations of the Lord's presence are given only to the believer who does two things.

1. The believer has Jesus' commandments. He has searched out God's will and promises and He put them into the core of his being.
2. The believer keeps the commandments of Jesus. He knows them and lives according to them.

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The believer who does these two things shows that he truly loves the Lord Jesus. In response, he is loved by the Father and the Jesus will love him as well. In fact, the Lord will manifest Himself to the believer who hides His commandments in his heart.

Judas asked the question for the first time, but the special manifestation of Christ's presence has been questioned and doubted by thousands ever since. Judas was thinking like all men think—in terms of a physical manifestation, a visible appearance.

The Holy Spirit: The Abiding of the Trinity

John 14:23-24

Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me."

The Holy Spirit is the abiding presence of the Trinity. Note the words, "My Father...we will come...and make our home with him." Both the Father and Christ come to abide in the believer in the person of the Holy Spirit. All three dwell within the believer. Note three simple but profound facts.

1. The coming presence of the Trinity is conditional: one must obey Christ, that is, love and keep His words. This is primarily speaking of placing one's faith in Him.

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1. The abiding presence of the Trinity is the love and presence of The Father, Christ, and the Holy Spirit.
2. The abiding presence of the Trinity is assured by God Himself. Note what Jesus said that His words are the words of the Father who sent Him.

The Holy Spirit: The Teacher

John 14:25-26

“These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 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 things that I said to you.”

The Holy Spirit is the Teacher. He teaches "all things" which Jesus taught. "All things" means all the things which Jesus taught including the presence of the Comforter (Holy Spirit), who is given to help the believer through the trials of life, and the indwelling presence and love of the Father and Son.

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The Comforter comes from the Father "in the name" of Jesus.

In calling God "the Father," a Father-child relationship is stressed. One must become a child of God, that is, of the Father, in order to be given the Father's Comforter.

The words "in the name" of Christ mean that one must approach the Father "in" the name of Christ, that is, recognizing that Jesus alone is acceptable to God.

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The purpose of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life is twofold.

1. To teach all things:
 - the words and the life of Christ,
 - the Truth and the Life,
 - the Word and how to live,
 - the theory and the practice,
 - the principles and the conduct,
 - the morality and the behavior.

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2. To help remember: to help remember all that has been taught in the Word of God, to help especially in the moments of trial when the truth is needed. In a moment of trial the Holy Spirit either infuses the believer with the strength to endure or flashes across his mind the way to escape (1 Cor. 10:13).

So What...

A person needs to understand that their sin separates them from their loving Creator.

Jesus came to declare God's love and righteousness to the world and pay the price for our (your) sin upon the cross.

When a person "knows" this and recognizes God as Father (loving authority), and responds in faith to it, they receive the Holy Spirit and enter into God's family.

Have you entered in?

Believer, do you live as if you are filled with the Spirit?