

WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH
GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD.
HE WAS WITH HIM AT THE
BEGINNING, THROUGH HIM ALL
THINGS WERE MADE. WHO
HIM, WHO HING, WHO HING
HAS BEEN MADE, WHO HAS
LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS
OF MEN. THE LIGHT SHINE
THE DARKNESS, AND THE
NESS HAS NOT UNDERSTOOD IT.

the gospel of

JOHN

John 16:7-11

Introduction

Last week we looked at four things the believer needs to know to endure persecution or any hardship in this world.

1. The believer must expect persecution
2. The believer must know that God exists and Jesus reigns.
3. The believer must keep his mind on his eternal destiny.
4. The believer must call upon the Holy Spirit for help.

Jesus has already revealed the person of the Holy Spirit, now Jesus is going to reveal the Spirit's work.

John 16:7-11

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 depart, I will send Him to you. ⁸ And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

The Holy Spirit Helps Believers

John 16:7

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Jesus said a surprising thing: "It is to your advantage that I go away." Jesus reinforced this statement with "I tell you the truth." This may be difficult for a believer to understand. It seems that we would be much better off if Jesus were here physically and bodily.

Jesus, however, had to leave so the Holy Spirit could come.

Our question should be, how are we better off with the presence of the Holy Spirit rather than the presence of Jesus.

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1. Since Jesus departed, we now have a glorified and exalted Lord. We have a Lord who rules and reigns and controls all. He is able to fulfill all His promises and meet our needs for life both in this life and eternal.
2. Since Jesus departed, we now have an Intercessor before the very throne of The Father. We have a Person who is touched with the feelings of our infirmities, because He was tempted in all points just as we are.

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3. Since Jesus departed, we now have the presence of the Holy Spirit with us at all times. Jesus in His human body could be only in one place at a time, but the Holy Spirit is able to be with all believers at the same time.

4. Since Jesus departed, we now have TRUTH to proclaim, the gospel of the risen and exalted Savior who is able to give eternal life to every person who comes to Him.

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5. Since Jesus departed, we now have the work of the Holy Spirit, His work of...
- convicting and convincing (John 16:8-11).
 - helping and guiding believers (John 16:12-13).
 - glorifying Christ (John 16:14-15).

The Holy Spirit Convicts the World

John 16:8-11

“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

The Holy Spirit convicts and convinces the world. The word “convict” means both to convict and to convince a person.

- Convict means to prick a person's heart until he senses and knows he is guilty. He has done wrong or failed to do right.
- Convince means to hammer and drive at a person's heart until he knows the fact is true.

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The Holy Spirit convicts and convinces the world of three things: sin, righteousness, and judgment.

1. There is the conviction of sin.

a. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of its sin, that man is sinful. The Holy Spirit convicts a man that he...

- misses the mark, that is, comes short of the glory of God.
 - trespasses, that is, wanders off the right path.
 - transgresses, that is, breaks the law of God.

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b. The Holy Spirit convinces the world that a man's unbelief is wrong. The Holy Spirit convinces the world that Jesus really did die for sin. The Holy Spirit takes a man who does not believe on Jesus and convinces him that Jesus is the Savior, and that his sins can really be forgiven when he believes on Jesus.

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2. There is the conviction of righteousness.

a. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of its lack of righteousness, that a man has no righteousness that is acceptable to God. The Holy Spirit convicts a man that his righteousness...

- is self-righteousness only.
- is inadequate, insufficient, and unacceptable to God.

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- b. The Holy Spirit convinces the world that Jesus' righteousness is acceptable to God. The Holy Spirit convinces a man...
- that Jesus really was received up into heaven by the Father because He was righteous.
 - that Jesus has secured righteousness for every man.
 - that man can approach God through the righteousness of Jesus.

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3. There is the conviction of judgment.

- a. The Holy Spirit convicts the world that judgment is coming, that a man is to face the personal judgment of God. The Holy Spirit convicts a man...
 - that he is both responsible and accountable to God and man.
 - that there is to be a real day of judgment sometime in the future.
 - that he is to stand face to face with God and be judged.
- that he is to be judged for sin and lack of righteousness, for what he has done and not done.

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b. The Holy Spirit convinces the world that Jesus has borne the judgment of sin and death for man. The Holy Spirit convinces a man...

- that Jesus died bearing the penalty and judgment of sin for him.
- that Jesus, by His death, destroyed the power of Satan over sin and death.
- that man can be freed from sin and death, that he can be forgiven for his sin and given eternal life through the death of Jesus.

So What ...

This is a serious message that applies to each of us.

Where do you stand with regard to the Spirit's conviction of sin, righteousness, and a judgment to come?

Do you believe that this is true?

Have you placed your faith and trust in Jesus for your salvation?

Since this is True, and if we are concerned for those we know, we must be active in our witness. Are you telling others about the Gospel?