

**LESSON 23: JOHN 14:15-31**  
**JANUARY 16, 2019**

**OVERVIEW**

- . Introduction to Jesus' teaching on the Holy Spirit
- . Jesus' preview of the Holy Spirit to the disciples – John 14:16-26
- . Jesus' parting word of peace – John 14:27-31

**INTRODUCTION TO JESUS' TEACHING ON THE HOLY SPIRIT**

- . Promise of greater works and promise of the Holy Spirit
  - . The promise is contingent upon Jesus' return to His father – John 14:12
  - . He promises that they will do even greater things
    - . Today Christianity is the largest religion in the world and growing
    - . Jesus, as the Son of God and as the Son of Man, seated at the right hand of the Father, given supreme power over the universe, continues His work today, more powerfully than ever before
- . The promise requires a threefold union of Jesus with His disciples – John 14:13-16
  - . In these verses Jesus is telling the disciples this new union with them would have three distinguishing characteristics
    - . Prayer in His name
      - . The power to do these things will begin with prayer
    - . Loving obedience to His commands
      - . Love for Jesus will manifest itself in obedience
    - . Presence of the Counselor
      - . This new union will be possible through the person of the Holy Spirit
        - . This statement will usher in a whole new way of thinking and a new way of being in communion with God
- . The promised Counselor is the Holy Spirit – John 14:16
  - . "I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever"
  - . The Person of the Holy Spirit in the Trinity
    - . The mystery of the Trinity can never be fully understood by the finite mind, bounded as it is by the limited knowledge and incomplete conceptions of fallen humanity – Isaiah 55:8-9
    - . Nowhere in scripture will you find the word trinity
  - . In these verses Jesus clearly speaks of this threefold aspect of God
    - . Jesus clearly speaks of Himself as different than God

- . "I will ask the Father"
- . As far back as Genesis there is reference to both the Father and the Son, as two separate persons both present at the creation of the natural realm
  - . "Let *us* make man in *our* image and after *our* likeness  
Genesis 1:26
  - . God's first act was to create His Son, and then through Him, all things were made – John 1:1-18
- . In these verses Jesus also refers to the Holy Spirit as another Person, separate from both the Father and the Son
- . All three Persons are included again in John 14:26
- . Jesus also calls Him the Spirit of truth (14:17), and the Holy Spirit (14:26)
- . We see evidence of the three Persons of the Trinity at Christ's baptism  
Matthew 3:16-17
  - . God the Father speaks audibly of His Son and the Holy Spirit outwardly descends upon Jesus in the form of a dove
- . In Christ's great commission to His disciples He speaks of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

### **IESUS' PREVIEW OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO DISCIPLES – JOHN 14:16-26**

- . The coming of the Holy Spirit – John 14:16
  - . He comes from the Father, but through Jesus
  - . Evidence, that although Jesus has been given authority over all things, that God is still the ultimate authority
  - . This also gives us further proof that Jesus acts in complete accordance with his Father's will
    - . He demonstrated this trait on while walking this earth, as human, with the presence of sin around Him
    - . Now, after defeating death, He sits at the right hand of His Father, in heaven, as Son of Man
    - . With His Father's authority, He sends us the Spirit, through Him, uniting us with His heavenly, eternal, body, alongside His Father
- . The names of the Holy Spirit – John 14:16-17
  - . Counselor – only John uses this word
    - . Means one called alongside to help or strengthen
  - . Advocate
    - . One who speaks on your behalf
  - . The Spirit of Truth
    - . One who will help instruct and teach the inner and deeper meaning of Jesus' many words

- . Dwelling place of the Holy Spirit – John 14:17
  - . When God gave Moses the Law, He was giving a group of people an external gift that would allow them to better understand who He was
    - . As a function of birth, all Jews were given access to this special gift, whether they desired it or not
    - . It was an external gift, housed in an external location, the Temple
  - . The Holy Spirit is a highly personal gift, given to those who choose to surrender their life to God, through Christ, and ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit
    - . The Spirit lives within us and we become God's temple
  - . Although the gift of the Spirit is available to all humans, it was not just sent out to the earth, in mass, at Pentecost
    - . Although the Spirit now lives in all who believe, the world still can not accept Him
      - . They neither recognize Him nor acknowledge His presence
      - . "The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God and cannot understand them"
- . The Spirit will live in the lives of the disciples, illuminating their thoughts from within, empowering a weak will from within to make decisions and stand by them
- . Jesus will come to them through the Holy Spirit – John 14:18-25
  - . In these verses Jesus could be speaking about three different events
    - . He could be speaking of His special return to His own at the end of times – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
    - . Could be referring to His return to the disciples at the resurrection
    - . Could be speaking of His coming through the Holy Spirit
- . Twofold work of the Holy Spirit – John 14:26
  - . He will teach the disciples all things
    - . The Spirit will shed a new light on the experiences that the disciples were eyewitnesses to
      - . The depth of understanding that comes from the words of the Gospels, far exceed the level of understanding at the time they were witnesses to the events
  - . He will remind them of all that Jesus said
    - . The presence of the Spirit, and its interaction in the penning of these words, makes the Gospels reliable documents

### **JESUS' PARTING WORD OF PEACE – JOHN 14:27-31**

- . The Lord's bequest of peace – John 14:27-29
  - . Sensing the perplexity and troubled feelings of the disciples, Jesus gives them these parting words of peace

- . Even after being empowered by the Spirit, Jesus knew the battles they would face, pitted against the world systems and world public opinion
- . Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus promises to give all believers a peace that truly surpasses all understanding
- . He also wanted them to be glad of His departure
  - . It would reunite Him with His Father
  - . It would give them a key advocate in Heaven, acting on their behalf
  - . It is only through His departure, that He can give them this gift
- . The coming of the prince of this world – John 14:30-31
  - . As He spoke, He knew His enemies were near and His time was short
  - . He knows He is about to engage in an epic battle with Satan
    - . Jesus knows this battle will result in Satan losing power forever over those who are redeemed and delivered out of his influence
    - . Jesus knows this is influence Satan will not give up lightly
  - . Satan had no hold on Jesus
    - . There was nothing in Jesus' nature that responded to Satan's wiles and temptations as our fallen human natures do

**NEXT LESSON – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019 – JOHN 15**