THE GIFT GIVER

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**DATE: 11/04/2018 am**

**TEXT: John 16:7-15; John 14:16-18**

**INTRODUCTION**

As we pick up this morning in the Life of Christ

Jesus and His Disciples are making their way from the Upper Room to Gethsemane

And as they do; Jesus is taking the time to teach them

As I have stated previously, these men are understandably upset at the thought that Jesus is going away

**John 16:5,6 – *“But now I go My way to Him that sent Me; …”*** and ***“… because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart”***

Because of their distress, Jesus wants to give them the truths contained in **chapters 14-16** to Encourage them and to Comfort them concerning their future

In this passage, Jesus is teaching them about the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

He promises, that when He goes away, He will deliver unto them a great gift

That gift is the Holy Spirit (Another Comforter)

This morning, I’d like to look at these verses and see the portrait of Jesus as **“The Great Gift Giver”**

While the passage is all about Jesus Christ, the emphasis is on the Gift

Therefore, let's take some time this morning to better understand the Ministry of the Holy Spirit

And just by way of introduction, let me say that I often feel sorry for the Holy Spirit … Why?

Because He is the most Misunderstood, the most often Ignored and the most Underappreciated member of the Trinity

My aim is to have you become better acquainted with this wonderful Person

Let's consider “**Jesus: The Great Gift Giver”** this morning

**~~~Prayer~~~**

First, let’s look at …

**I. HIS “WORTH” – v. 7**

**… v.7** speaks about the Worth of the Holy Spirit in Several ways

Jesus tells His men that it was ***“expedient”*** for Him to go away

This word simply means that it’s going to be *profitable* for the Disciples that Jesus is leaving

How would that be possible?

Well, to understand the Worth of this great gift, we must first come to understand something of His nature

First, let’s consider …

**A. The Holy Spirit’s ‘Personality’**

Please notice that the Spirit of God is a ***“He”*** and not a it!

Jesus uses the Masculine Pronouns of ***“Him”*** and ***“He”***

**vs. 7, 8** read **– *“but if I depart, I will send Him unto you” “And when He is come, …”***

Far too many in the Christian realm have treated the Holy Spirit like some force (some magic power)

-- He’s not a *It,* He’s a *Who*

-- He’s the 3rd Member of the Trinity

-- He’s co-equal with the Father and the Son, and is as much God as they are

**I John 5:7** tells us **– *“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one”* (John 1:1-3)**

Notice also as a Person He can be …

**1.** Grieved – **Ephesians 4:30**

***“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption”***

That word Grieved means *to make sad or sorry*

**2.** Quenched – **I Thessalonians 5:19**

***“Quench not the Spirit”***

That word quench means *to put out (as in a fire)*

It’s talking about … *not listening to, to disregard*

**3.** Lied to – **Acts 5:1-11**

I think we are all familiar with what happened when Ananias and Sapphira made their donation to the church and lied about it

Peter told them that they didn’t lie unto men, but unto God

**Acts 5:3, 4 – *“But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost” “…thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God”***

You can’t lie to a force

According to **vs. 13, 14**, the Holy Spirit will never promote Himself

***“Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall Not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come” “He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you”***

His Ministry is to point men to Jesus

I realize this flies in the face of many of the modern movements, where the Spirit is emphasized

But in truth, He did not come to make a name for Himself,

He came to point men to Jesus!

Most people use the Holy Spirit to promote themselves

**B. The Holy Spirit’s ‘Power’**

In **v. 7** the Holy Spirit is called the ***“Comforter”***

This word refers to *“an assistant, a helper. One who comes alongside of another to offer aid. It can refer to a defense attorney”*

*When referring to the Holy Spirit it speaks of the One Who comes alongside the saint to offer help for the journey*

He comes to our aid, He encourages us, He teaches us those things we need to know

May I be so bold as to say that the Holy Spirit should be the saint's best friend on earth!

It would be absolutely impossible to live the Christian life without the presence of the Holy Spirit

If He did not live within the child of God and give direction moment by moment, we would never be able to live for the Lord

Please bear in mind that even the Lord Jesus Christ lived His life solely in the power of the Holy Ghost,

**Philippians 2:5-8 – *“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:” “Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:” “But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:” “And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross”***

Jesus did not come into this world to live as God in a man's suit

He came to live as a man, fulfilling all the demands of God's righteousness

He came to live the kind of life that is possible only through the power of the Spirit of God

**C. The Holy Spirit’s ‘Permanence’**

According to the Bible, the Spirit of God comes into a life at the moment of conversion,

**I Corinthians 12:13 – *“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit”***

And when He does, He stays, He never leaves

**John 14:16 – *“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever;”***

There are many groups who say that a person must be saved by faith in Jesus and then at some later date (if that same person can meet a list of demands) that they then can receive the Holy Spirit

When in truth, if you do not have the Spirit of God, then you do not have the Son of God,

**Romans 8:9 – *“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His”***

They come together as part of the same package

Salvation and the Holy Spirit

You see, you can't have One without the Other!

Here is where the True Worth of this Great Gift is clearly seen

The fact that He comes into the life of the believer and dwells in him is a remarkable thing

You see, Jesus, in His human body, was limited to one geographic location at a time

Also, in His body, it is impossible for Him to dwell in you

However, in the Person of the Holy Spirit, He is able to dwell in every child of God at the same time!

That is a thing of great value!

**HIS “WORTH”**

**II. HIS “WORK” – vs. 7-15**

-- In **John 3:5,** we are taught about the Holy Spirit's Regenerating Ministry

***“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God”***

-- In [**II Thessalonians 2:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Th+2%3A7), we are taught about the Holy Spirit's Restraining Ministry

***“For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only He who now letteth will let, until He be taken out of the way”***

-- In our text, we are taught about the Holy Spirit's Reproving Ministry

**v. 8 – *“And when He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:”***

**Reprove** means *to convict, to convince*

Only the Holy Spirit using the Word of God can convict someone of their sin

First, let’s look at the Work of the Holy Spirit …

**A. In the Life of the ‘Sinner’**

**1. *“He will reprove the world of sin”***

**Romans 3:23 – *“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”***

It was through Adam that we have all inherited the sin nature

**Romans 5:12 – *“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”***

We are Sinner by Nature, not just by Choice

And until someone sees themselves as a Sinner who has offended a Holy God, there will be no salvation

By conviction, the sinner knows that he is guilty!

Conviction may not be very pleasant, but it is essential and it is really a blessing from the Lord!

God doesn’t leave the Sinner hanging either

**2.** ***“He will reprove the world … of Righteousness”***

He reveals to the Sinner that Salvation is in Jesus

**John 3:16; 14:6 …**

**3. *“He will reprove the world … of Judgment”***

**Hebrews 9:27 – *“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:”***

Our Judgment day is coming, will you stand in the presence of God in your own righteousness or God’s provided Righteousness (Jesus)

Then, there is the Work of the Holy Spirit …

**B. In the Life of the ‘Saint’ – vs. 12-15**

While the Holy Spirit is active in the lives of Unbelievers, He is also active in the lives of Believers

There are several ministries that He conducts in our lives

Let’s look at some of them

**1.** Dwelling – **John 14:17**

***“Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you”***

We are now the *Dwelling Place* or the *Temple* of God

**2.** Teaching – **John 16:13**

***“Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will Guide you into all Truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come”***

We have the Promise of God Teaching us what we need to know

He will Teach us in the Ways of God, the Will of God and the Word of God

**3.** Leading – **Romans 8:14**

***“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God”***

**Isaiah 30:21 *– “And thine ears shall hear a Word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left”***

God’s Leading is always by the Word of God

**4.** Enabling – **Acts 1:8**

***“But ye shall receive Power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”***

The Spirit of God desires to fill our lives with His presence and power so that we might be able to serve the Lord affectively

**5.** Encouragement – **John 14:18**

***“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you”***

The Spirit of God carries out a blessed ministry of Encouragement in the lives of God's children

He knows every trial we face and He is able to Support us, Aid us and Keep us during all of life's difficult times

How is this possible? Because He is always with us!

**HIS “WORTH”**

**HIS “WORK”**

Then, lastly, let’s look at …

**III. HIS “WONDER” – 14:16-18**

The fact that the Holy Spirit is **a Wonderful Gift** should be apparent

However, before we end, I would like to point out 3 great truths that illustrate the Wonder of this Great Gift

When we think of something Wonderful …

We think of something beautiful, unexpected, out of the ordinary, inexplainable, something beyond imagination

Let’s look back to **Chapter 14** for this last point

First, His Wonder …

**A. Lies in His ‘Presence’ in Our Lives – v. 17**

***“…but we know Him; for He dwelleth with us, and shall be in us”***

Why in the world would God take up residence in our Lives?

I Wish I had the answer for you, I don’t know other than He loves us that much

Think about it, there is nowhere we can go and be separated from the presence of God

**Romans 8:35, 39** ***– “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” “Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord”***

Everywhere we go, He goes in us!

Everything we face He faces with us!

The key to experiencing this, is learning to yield to Him so that He won't just be in us, but that He will also be able to live through us (Surrender)

Next, His Wonder …

**B. Lies in His ‘Permanence’ in Our Lives – v. 16**

***“And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever”***

Once a person is saved by the Grace of God, the Holy Spirit takes up residence in that life

At the very instant of salvation, the Spirit of God is

sealed in the spirit of the believer and will remain there

**Ephesians 4:30 – *“And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption”***

You might ask, what about someone who is not living for God

There can only be one of two things …

Either they are not saved

Or they are looking for Trouble

Then, Lastly, His Wonder …

**C. Lies in His ‘Performance’ in Our Lives – v. 21**

***“and I (Jesus) will love him, and will manifest Myself to him”***

***“Manifest”*** – means *to make real*

His performance is astounding!

He is able to take a man who is headed for Hell and who doesn't care about God,

And take that man, bring him under the conviction of sin, point him to Calvary and then save him by the grace of God

After he saves the lost man, he then takes that life that was so wicked and wretched and He turns it around and makes it a thing of honor and glory to the Lord

Then, He uses that new life to carry the Gospel to other sinners who need to meet the same life changing Saviour, and the process begins again!

To me, that’s a Wonderful thing!

**CONCLUSION**

So, where do you find yourself this morning?

Are you Struggling?

Maybe you need to be saved?

My challenge to you this morning is for you to come to the Lord Jesus for Salvation

Does this message find you already saved, but living in your own power and energy?

My challenge to you is to go to the Lord in the privacy of prayer and get what you need from Him

Does this message find you saved, but struggling with the difficulties and burdens of life?

My challenge again would be for you to go to the Lord in prayer and get what you need from the One who will come alongside you in the Person of the Holy Spirit and will help you through this difficult time

Wherever the Lord may have found you this morning, please know that you do not have to remain there

Whatever your need is today, I challenge you to bring your life to Jesus and that you allow Him to do His great work in you

Why not come to Him and experience the Great Gift of the Great Gift Giver right now?

**INVITATION**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT’S “WORTH”**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT’S “WORK”**

**THE “WONDER” OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**