

9.09.18 ~ John 14:15-26,
Jesus Promises the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

Read John 14:15... True agape love (love that comes from God, is divine, unconditional, impartial, eternal) is inseparable from obedience to God's Word.

God's Word comes from God, God's Word gives life, and so, if God's Life (eternal spiritual life) is in you, it only makes sense that you will desire to obey God's Word (see **John 3:33-36; 1:1-4, 14, 18**).

Read John 14:16-17... Jesus had been with His disciples for 3+ years, therefore God's Spirit, the Spirit of Truth, was with them in the presence of Christ, living with them.

Because Jesus, God's Son, was in submission to the Father while He was in the flesh of a human, Jesus would ask the Father to send another "Helper" [*Paracletos* = comforter, one who comes alongside to advocate or intercede].

Jesus would soon leave the disciples, but the Holy Spirit, the 3rd member of the Godhead, was going to come to them and be in them.

Notice the word "another" in **verse 16**, that specific Greek word means another of the same kind, i.e., another one equal to Jesus Christ, God the Son. The Spirit of Christ, the Holy Spirit of God would come to live in the disciples, in all true believers and followers of Christ, "forever."

Read John 14:18-20... This is indeed complex, in that Jesus is going to be taken from the disciples and put to death, i.e., He is going to leave them; but He is not going to leave them as orphans, alone, without a caregiver.

Jesus had just told them that He would send another one (God's Spirit, the Spirit of Truth), who is just like Him (God's Son, who is the Truth). This is so cool! Paul, in **Ephesians 1:9**, talks about the mystery of God's will being made known to us (all Christians), and in **Ephesians 1:13-14**, we are told that all those who hear and believe the message of Christ, are immediately indwelt by God's Spirit, making us God's possession. **1Corinthians 12:13** tells us that it is God's Spirit who places us in the Body of Christ and fills us with Himself.

Romans 8:9, tells us that anyone who doesn't have the Spirit of God living in them, the Spirit of Christ, then that person is not a child of God.

Look again at **John 14:18-19**, Jesus is talking here about His impending death and His subsequent resurrection; for it will be at that time that they will see Him again. But Jesus is also talking about the coming of the Holy Spirit to indwell in them, for this will clearly express the unity and oneness of the God-head, as it says in **verse 20**, "In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you."

In **verse 19** Jesus says, "because I live, you will live also," this is talking about post resurrection life, as Jesus said to Martha in **John 11:25-26**, just before raising Lazarus from the grave, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die." Wow! Jesus will soon demonstrate to His disciples that He has authority for eternal life, for on Sunday morning He will come out of the tomb alive; and so they also have the hope of eternal/spiritual life after physical death.

Read John 14:21-24... Jesus again reiterates, here in **verse 21**, what He already said in **verse 15**, that in reference to our relationship with God, loving God and obedience to His Word are synonymous; in fact, **verse 24**, basically says, if you don't obey God's Word, you do not display love for Christ the Lord.

Now, think about this before you answer: According to God, what is the opposite of love? Hate! There is no middle ground, no 3rd option with God, you either obey or disobey; you either express love for God or hate.

Romans 12:9 tells us love is to be sincere, genuine, and so we are commanded to hate what is evil, and to love, i.e., to cling or hold fast to what is good!

A true, born again relationship with God through Christ will be evidenced by the way we obey and honor God's Word; because if we are honoring God's Word we are honoring His Son, and if we are honoring His Son, we are honoring the Father.

John 5:22-23, [The Father] "has given all judgment to the Son, so that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."

Let me remind you here that Jesus is God and God is the author and originator of all Scripture; therefore it is not just the Words Jesus spoke that we are to obey, but every word that comes from the mouth of God. The words of all 66 Books of the Bible are given by God, breathed by God (cf. **2Timothy 3:16-17**), for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that we might be equipped to accomplish everything God wants us to do.

Ephesians 2:10, "For we are [God's] workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."

The good works we do, we do not do in order to acquire righteousness or a right standing with God. We obey God's Word in order to honor the Lord and to express our love for Him, showing the work of the Holy Spirit in us.

Romans 5:5, "the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."

Galatians 5:22-23, "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

1John 5:20, "And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

Read John 14:25-26... Think about the 3+ years the disciples had with Jesus up to this point - all that they had heard and witnessed and experienced.

Jesus again reminds them that He is going away, but He now tells them that He will not leave them as orphans, He will not abandon them; in fact, the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus will ask the Father to send, will come to them and indwell them, strengthen them, and He will supernaturally enable them to remember all that God desires to be written down in the Books of the New Testament.

2Peter 1:20-21, "no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."

The Spirit of God, the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of Truth, that is, the Holy Spirit, will empower and enable these men, and other men whom God has selected, to speak and to write the very words of God, so that God would be revealed to us through His Word, by His Spirit, ultimately (**John 20:31**), "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."

If you aren't sure you have salvation through Jesus Christ, if your heart is troubled about it, come to the Savior right now, He turns no one away.

Admit you're a sinner, we all are (Romans 3:10, 23)...

Believe that Jesus can save you; He is the only means of salvation (Romans 6:23): the only Way to God, the only Truth of God, the only Life with God...

Confess your sinfulness to Him and He will forgive all your sins: past, present, future (Romans 5:8; 8:1)...

Demonstrate the new life you have received in Christ (2Corinthians 5:17)...

How do you demonstrate new life in Christ?

Read the Bible daily and seek to obey what you understand.

Pray - talk to God throughout your day, asking Him to guide and strengthen you, to give you opportunities to serve Him...

Be in fellowship and serve in a local God-honoring church where the Bible is taught, lived out, and honored...

Pastor Mike
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