

The Coming Holy Spirit

John 14:15-17; 14:25-27; 16:4-11

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The Holy Spirit Will Be Different, Yet Familiar To The Disciples (14:15-17)

The coming Holy Spirit will have some unique differences to Jesus, and yet will still be very familiar to them. For starters, the Helper will be with them forever, whereas Jesus has been specifically telling them that he will only be with them for a little while longer. The Spirit will be similar to Jesus, in that the world (made up of all unbelievers) cannot receive him because they don't see him nor know him. This description of how the world will reject the Spirit reminds us of when John introduces us to Jesus (1:9-13) The world didn't know Jesus nor did they receive him, in a like manner the world will neither see, know or receive the Spirit.

The disciples on the other hand will find that this Spirit will be very familiar to them. This is what Jesus is teaching them when he tells the disciples that "they know him, for he dwells with you, and will be in you". Though they have yet to realize it, the disciples do know the Spirit, he has been dwelling with them in the person of Jesus! And soon, the Spirit will "be in" them, in the same manner, he is in Jesus! When the Spirit comes to them at Pentecost, they aren't confused as to who he is, he is the Spirit of God whom they have met and been following, in Jesus.

The Holy Spirit Will Teach And Remind The Disciples (14:25-27 / 16:12-15)

One of the primary activities of the Spirit is to remind the disciples of all that Jesus had taught them and to teach them new things for their specific circumstances once Jesus has left them. Up to this point, it has been Jesus who has led them, taught them, rebuked them, ministered to them, and revealed God to them. Once Jesus has left them, these things will become the role and ministries of the Spirit in their lives.

This truth helps us to have confidence in the accurate and inspired transmission of the Gospels and the New Testament documents. Jesus clearly states that these men will be supernaturally reminded of Jesus' teachings (recorded in the Gospels and early Acts) and that they will be taught other things from God, including what is to come.

The Holy Spirit's Coming Is Better For The Disciples (16:4-7)

Jesus tells the disciples that this coming situation is better than the one they have now with him. It does not appear that the disciples understood nor agreed with this new teaching of Jesus, but it is because they could not fully grasp what he was teaching them. How could it be "better" for them if their Rabbi, Friend, and Messiah left them?! This sounded like nonsense to them. However, once the day of Pentecost arrives, and these prophecies are fulfilled, the disciples understand exactly what Jesus was talking about. They had Jesus to minister to them and teach them the things of God, but once the Spirit came, they all understood that now God was going to teach and minister to them, and to the world *through* them! The Spirit of God was going to take up the ministries of Jesus, but now instead of those ministries coming through one person (Jesus), they would come through the entire family of God!

The Holy Spirit Will Prosecute The World Through The Disciples (16:8-11)

Through Jesus, God has been bringing truth into the world. However, Jesus is describing in this passage, the new means by which that will happen. Jesus specifically mentions three particular categories where the Spirit will convict the world: Sin, Righteousness, and Judgment. This is a much different ministry than the teaching, comfort, and courage that the Spirit will bring to the disciples.

The world will be guilty of sin because they do not believe in Jesus. They will be guilty of not living righteous lives, which they have seen in Jesus, and will see in the Spirit filled disciples. They will be guilty in the final judgment because the ruler of this world has been condemned, and all those who share in Satan's rejection of Jesus will share in his condemnation.

I would encourage you to read through this "last discourse" this week. (John 14-16) Spend some time meditating on the truth that the Holy Spirit of God dwells within you and wants to use you to bring about the glory of God in the world in the same way he brought about the glory of God through the life and words of Jesus the Messiah. He has reminded the Apostles of all that Jesus taught them and has taught them new things, which are accurately recorded for us in the New Testament scriptures.

Grace Family Needs, News & Notes

Join Us For Our Business Meeting Today At 4 pm (Childcare Provided)

Great time of fellowship, meeting new members, prayer, and financial update.

Bring a finger food or dessert to share.

See the attached budget proposal for 2022

Interested In being Baptized?

Come join our intro to baptism class,

Nov 14th, 10:00 am in the Modular Classroom.

Women's Ministry Christmas Bunco Night!

Join the women of Grace at their Christmas Bunco Potluck Party!

December 11th, 6-8 pm. The cost is \$5

Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Sign Up At Kiosk On The Patio, Starting Nov 21st OR

Email kimball@gccramona.com to RSVP