

Spirit Filled, Spirit Guided Jesus People John 14:15-31

vs. 15, Love demonstrated through listening (obedience).

Deuteronomy 7:9 Know that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps his gracious covenant loyalty for a thousand generations with those who love him and keep his commands.

Love is demonstrated through action.

- The Spirit is given as a gift through faith (7:39).
- The Spirit is present with those who are committed to Jesus (14:17).
- The more you walk in the ways of the Lord the greater the power given by the Holy Spirit for obedience.
- The Spirit enables believers to grow in strength and perseverance.

The world does not know him.

You know him.

Duty will not generate obedience to Christ; only love for him can do that.

vs. 17, He remains (dwells) with you and will be in you.

Remember: We often long to experience Jesus in person. Only if...

Jesus tells us what we might wish for is not better.

1. Those who were around Jesus still had to work through confusion.
2. Jesus has promised he will still be present. With this promise he states that life will be easier not harder.

Holy Spirit -> Counselor / Helper / Comforter / Advocate

Romans 8:26-27 In the same way the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with inexpressible groanings. **27** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because he intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

vs. 19-21,

We will have clear vision concerning Jesus through faith.

We will live indwelt by his presence.

We will know the beauty of the human / divine relationship. All of this is fused together through the unbreakable bond of love.

vs. 22, The reality of the Kingdom is a sharp contrast to the world.

There are those to whom Jesus has been revealed.

There are those (the world) who remain in darkness.

Two realities concerning the triune God.

1. God rejects and is totally opposed to wickedness.
2. God loves the world and the people he has created, despite that wickedness.

Human nature is much more comfortable with both/and than they are with either/or!

- Jesus is both God and human.

-> But we must not let the beauty of the both/and distract us from the necessity of the either/or.

Matthew 6:24 No one can serve two masters, since either he will hate one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

There is a sharp distinction between followers of Jesus (walking the narrow path) and 'the world'.

Responding to Jesus with obedience and faith.

- There are many facets to the good news of the gospel.
- One of those facets is God's desire to be in relationship with his people.
- Adam and Eve walked side by side with God.

Ezekiel 37:26-27 I will make a covenant of peace with them; it will be a permanent covenant with them. I will establish and multiply them and will set my sanctuary among them forever. **27** My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be my people.

Revelation 21:3 Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God's dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God.

From creation to new creation

- God is restoring what sin has devastated.
- Anyone who loves and obeys Jesus receives the Spirit.

vs. 26, the Counselor

Specific and General Promise

Specific -> the first witnesses of Jesus, the first disciples, are receiving the Spirit. The Spirit will enable the first generation of disciples to accurately and fully understand the truth of Jesus.

General -> the following generations of Jesus people will also receive the same Spirit. The Spirit works in the lives of the believers to embrace the witness of the first generation and see the complete revelation brought by Jesus himself.

vs. 27, Peace I leave with you.

Paradigm disrupting Peace

- The death and resurrection of Jesus ensure for his followers peace, which transcends all understanding.

The OT anticipated a main characteristic of the messianic kingdom would be peace.

Psalm 29:11 The Lord gives his people strength; the Lord blesses his people with peace.

Isaiah 9:6 For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

Haggai 2:9 "The final glory of this house[a] will be greater than the first," says the Lord of Armies. "I will provide peace in this place"—this is the declaration of the Lord of Armies.

The NT speaks of the ultimate arrival of this peace.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 14:17 for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit.

vs. 28, "I am going away and I am coming to you."

I am giving you the resource which will enable you to experience peace (shalom) / wholeness!

The Father is greater than I...

What does this mean?

Philippians 2:5-8 Christ Jesus, **6** who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. **7** Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when

he had come as a man, **8** he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.

Love rejoices in the will of the Father!

Did the disciples understand the person and sacrifice of Jesus?

vs. 29, Jesus deeply cared for his followers emotional distress.

John's world -> Recording what he witnessed / Applying the reality to their everyday lives.

The Spirit

- Allows Jesus people to continually be aware of his presence.
- Enables Jesus people to continuously apply the teachings of Jesus to every new situation without becoming dominated by rigid legalism.
- Equips the saints to love their neighbors in the most difficult of circumstances and opposition.