

The Holy spirit
The Promise of the Holy Spirit
John 14:16-18

October 7, 2018 a.m.

HDBC

Imagine with me. 12 men in a room with Jesus, only hours before his arrest and crucifixion. He knows it and has known it for a long time. He has told them on more than one occasion that there would come a time when He would leave them. But each time, they struggled to comprehend what he was saying.

Now, he makes it plain to them. He is leaving, and it will be soon. They are shocked, confused and distraught. How will they function without him? What will become of their faith and their future? What about the Kingdom of God?

He knew what they were thinking & feeling. So, He gave them instructions about life without him. They were to **abide** in Him, **love** each other and expect the **world to hate** them. All of that was good and needed, but that was not what they wanted to hear at that moment. They were afraid of a future without Him. He was leaving and they would be spiritual orphans. **That was the real issue!**

So, he offered a promise to reassure them. He would not leave them alone. There was a plan in place that would more than meet their need. In fact, His leaving would actually benefit them more than if He stayed.

He would send a person to take his place. That person is the Holy Spirit. The third person of the triune God. He would not only take the place of Jesus in their lives, **but would, in essence, be Jesus** coming back to them and living in them.

This morning we begin a study of the Holy Spirit. This is not a theological study. I really don't care if we can answer theological questions about the Holy Spirit when we are done. I do care that we know Him more and allow Him to do His work in us more than we have ever done before!

Read John 14:16-18 Note four things about the Holy Spirit in this promise.

1. He is a Person (how do we know?)

A. The Bible Calls Him a Person

Masculine personal pronoun is used when referring to the Holy Spirit.

*And I will ask the Father and He will give you another Helper, that **He** may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold **Him** or know **Him**, but you know **Him** because **He** abides with you and will be in you.*

B. He Has Intelligence (Acts 16:6-7)

Paul and Silas on a mission trip and are stopped by the Holy Spirit.

They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them;

Clearly the Spirit was aware of their movements and knew the direction that they should go. Twice He put the brakes on potential ministries.

Rom. 8:27 . . .and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is. Note the phrase **the mind of the Spirit**.

C. He Makes Decisions (1 Corinthians 12:11)

But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

He has a will. He not only thinks, but makes decisions. He distributes gifts to believers. He chooses which churches to place them in.

D. He Feels (Eph. 4:30)

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

He can be grieved. Will discuss this in later message.

2. He is a Divine Person

He is not simply a person. He is not some creature whom God sends to be with us. He is God Himself. He is divine. Notice a key word in our text.

Another – means another of the same kind or of the same essence. In other words, He would have the same essence as Christ. They would be the same. He has the attributes or characteristics of deity. Here are four.

A. He is Eternal (Heb. 9:14)

*...how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the **eternal Spirit** offered Himself without blemish to God,*

This universe has been around a long time, but it is not eternal.
The angels have been around for a long time, but are not eternal.
God alone possesses absolute eternity. And that describes the Spirit.

B. He is All-powerful (Luke 1:35)

The Holy Spirit will come upon you , and the power of the Most High will overshadow you;

The Holy Spirit would be the agent of conception in Mary, but His presence would bring all the power of **the Most High**. No difference in the power of the Father and the power of the Spirit.

C. He is Omni-Present (Psalm 139:7)

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

The Holy Spirit is everywhere. He is not limited by physical space. He can be here and there at the same time.

D. He is All-knowing (1 Cor. 2:10, 11)

The Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man? Even so, the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.

God knows everything. The Spirit knows everything. Spirit is God.

He is a person. He is a divine person.

3. He is a Divine Person Dwelling in Us

- 1) He is **given to us**. (16) His coming is for and to us. He is sent by God specifically to us. His coming is for no other purpose or reason. He is sent for and to us. We are the object of His ministry.
- 2) He will live and **abide in us** (17). He will dwell in us. He does not simply come to be with us, but **to live in us**. He will not simply come into our lives, like a good friend or neighbor, but he comes into our very being. We will be joined together like no earthly relationship could.
- 3) He will be with us **forever**. (16) His connection with us will be permanent. Once the Spirit moves into a life, He never leaves. You will be forever connected with the Holy Spirit. Statement of security.

He is a person. He is a divine person. He is a divine person dwelling in us.

4. He is a Divine Person Dwelling in Us and Working for Us

He does not simply come to live in us like a **parasite or a tagalong**. He comes with a purpose and mission. In the few minutes remaining I want to list **six things** that the Holy Spirit does in, through and for us. Will dig a little deeper into some of these things in later messages.

1) Comfort and Companionship

He is called **Helper**. It means **to come alongside**.

Advocate in legal proceedings. Comforter who comes to grieve.

Friend who sticks by you regardless of what you are going through.

Companion who walks a difficult road just to be with the other person.

Counselor who corrects, advises and encourages.

2) Illumination and Understanding **John 14:26**

Some things were about to happen that they would not understand. The Holy Spirit would bring clarity and understanding. Same is true of us. He

helps us understand the word of God and His promptings in our lives.

3) **Conviction and Confidence** (John 16:8-11)

He is on our side as a comforter and counselor. But He is quick to convict us of sin. He is the one who makes us feel bad when we sin against God. He is capable of really turning up the heat on us.

He is the one who convicts a lost person that they are a sinner and in need of a savior. No one would be saved apart from His work.

He also reminds us that the ruler of this world has already been judged. That gives us great confidence that the sovereign God will make all things right that have been made wrong by Satan.

4) **Empathy and Intercession** (Romans 8:26)

And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness for we do not know how to pray as we should, but he Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

There are times when we can't pray. He is always praying for us!

5) **Prompting and Restraining**

He prompts us to do certain things, take certain actions, while restraining us from other things. We are called to **walk by the Spirit** and to be **led by the Spirit**. Both indicate that the Holy Spirit is actively directing our actions. More about this in other messages.

6) **Salvation and Security**

When you were saved, the Holy Spirit moved into your spirit and brought it to life. Your spiritual life comes from His spiritual life.

Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven. John 3:5

you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who was given as a pledge of our inheritance. . . Ephesians 1:13

Takeaways:

- 1. Believe that He is in you and live with that knowledge**
- 2. Each morning ask Him to lead your thoughts, words and actions**
- 3. Each evening ask Him to reveal sins you may have not confessed**