

**“When He Comes”
John 16:7-11
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The ministry of the Holy Spirit has been misunderstood by many. In our scripture for this lesson Jesus is again reminding His disciples of the advantage of Him going away. He tells them, “... for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.” (John 16:7 NAS)

Jesus tells His disciples in John 16:1, “These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling.” Jesus tells His disciples these things so that they will not be caught unaware when these things take place.

Jesus had mentioned to them in previous verses (John 15:18-25) regarding the world’s hatred of them and how the world would oppose the testimony of the Holy Spirit regarding Who He is, The Messiah and Son of God.

In our text (John 16:7-11) for today, Jesus is being very specific as to how the Spirit will deal with the world and how the Spirit will testify as to Who He is and how the Spirit will convict of sin.

His disciples are not really aware of the things that Jesus is saying to them because in John 16:5-6, His disciples are saddened by the things that Jesus is saying to them. Jesus says to them, “But now I am going to Him who sent Me; and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.”

Jesus reminds His disciples what they can expect when the Holy Spirit comes. Notice also how Jesus keeps using the personal pronoun in referring to the Holy Spirit, He. The Holy Spirit is a person, the third Person of the Trinity.

“And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; 11 and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.” John 16:8-11 (NAS)

During this particular time that Jesus is talking to His disciples it is drawing close to Pentecost, about 40 days away. Here’s a little information about Pentecost -

Pentecost was one of the three major Jewish festivals; the other two are the Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. Pentecost was also known as “the Feast of Weeks,” “the Firstfruits of the Wheat Harvest,” and “the Day of Firstfruits.” The term Pentecost from the Greek word for “fifty,” was so named because it fell on the 50th day after the Sabbath of the Passover.

During this harvest celebration, the Jews brought to God the firstfruits of their harvest in thanksgiving, expecting that God would give the rest of the harvest as His blessing.

This particular Day of Pentecost was the day of firstfruits of Christ’s church, the beginning of the great harvest of souls who would come to know Christ and be joined together through the work of the Holy Spirit.

For additional information on Pentecost consult your Bible Dictionary or other Biblical sources.

2 – When He Comes

Now, back to our text for today –

Jesus reminded his disciples that when the Holy Spirit comes, he will do certain things. Let's take a closer look at these things.

The Holy Spirit will convict of sin – notice that the verse says s-i-n not s-i-n-s – this has a particular sin in mind and that is the sin of not believing in Jesus as Messiah and Son of God.

The Bible is clear when it comes to sin and it does not exclude anyone but includes everyone.

Romans 3:23 – “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” You do know what all means right?

The Holy Spirit will convict all those who do not believe in Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God. There is not escape - ALL WILL BE CONVICTED.

If anyone does not believe in Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God, they will die in their sins.

John 8:24 – “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins.”

Jesus again emphasizes very emphatically, that the fatal, unforgivable, and eternal sin is failure to believe in Him as Messiah and Son of God. Hear this now, there is no other way for sins to be forgiven except by believing (accepting) that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God. Going to church is good but it will not save you from your sins. Getting baptize is commendable but it will not save you from your sins. Saying your prayers every night is wonderful but it will not save you from your sins. Doing good deeds are achievable but it will not save you from your sins. Only by accepting Jesus Christ into your life and acknowledging Him as Messiah and Son of God will save you from your sins.

The Holy Spirit will not only convict of sin but He will also convict of righteousness –

After Jesus' departure the Holy Spirit would convict the world of the nature of righteousness and the need for righteousness. What Jesus did by dying on the cross for you and me was completely righteous and God proved that it was righteous by raising His Son from the grave, signifying God's acceptance and satisfaction of His Son's sacrifice. The Holy Spirit convicts the world of the righteousness of Christ that He provides in that it is His righteousness that saves us.

The righteousness of Jesus exposes the unrighteousness of man – ALL HAVE SINNED.

The Holy Spirit will not only convict of sin and convict of righteousness but He will also convict of judgment.

Look at John 16 and the b section of verse 11 – “... because the ruler of this world has been judged.”

3 – When He Comes

Somebody, hold my mule, while I shout right now!!! Notice what the verse says, it did not say the ruler of this world shall be judged, it does not say the ruler of this world will be judged, it says the ruler of this world HAS BEEN JUDGED!!! It has already taken place!

The late great, A. Louis Patterson, Jr., would say right about now, “If your bell is not ringing by now, your clapper must be broken.” My! My! My!

Satan and the world under his control has already been judged. Satan, the ruler of the world (John 14:30; Ephesians 2:1-3), who as the god of this world, has perverted the world’s judgment and turned people from believing in Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God, has already been defeated at the cross! Satan was judged at the cross, and the Holy Spirit convinces people of the judgment to come. Satan has been judged, so all who side with him will be judged with him.

There is not room for “straddling the fence” – a person is either a child of God or a child of the devil.

The Holy Spirit will lead sinners to true judgment.

**“And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment.”
John 16:8 (NAS)**

SIN – because they do not believe in Jesus

RIGHTEOUSNESS – because Jesus goes to the Father

JUDGMENT – because the devil has already been judged

OUR HELPER HAS ALREADY COME!!!

Check out these additional scriptures –

His life-giving power – John 7:37-39

His indwelling presence – John 14:16-17

His teaching ministry – John 14:26

His ministry of empowering for witness – John 15:26

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