

SOUTH GROVE FREE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LONDON

Lord's Day Morning

Date 6th November 2022

Preacher Rev Philip Knowles Ps/ Hymns 121, Tune 58 Jesus name high over all, 170, 33, 32 Tune 480 when I survey the wondrous cross.

Read: Philippians 1:12-20 Text Philippians 1:19

Series: Philippians (29) Title: Paul's Knowledge to Rejoice
(3) The Supply of the Spirit

When Paul served Christ on earth, He laboured for Christ's glory not his own.

Therefore, Paul was certain, that whoever added affliction or extra distress upon him, misrepresented him, while in prison, Christ would be His vindicator.

In fact, Paul said in **Philippians 2:16** "***Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain***

He looked forward for **the salvation of the sovereign**, to hear the Lord declare his labour was not in vain, he suffered for righteousness sake, that he fought a good fight and kept the faith, therefore, well done my good and faithful servant enter into the kingdom prepared for you before the foundation of the world.

As Paul waited with expectation for that day, he was helped through or by **the supplication of the saints**.

He knew the saints at Philippi where praying for him, and he was encouraged, because God uses and works through a praying people.

Paul continues, and rejoices in the knowledge, that he enjoys and will continue to enjoy **the supply of the spirit**

For he says, through...the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

The word **supply** is a wonderful word packed with gospel nutrition for our souls.

Its means **provision, to furnish, minister unto**. So, the over all thought is **to fully supply the need**.

The original Greek word **Epi/chor-egéo** refers to a **supply** and provision that is **abundant, generous, overflowing, full and complete**.

This is an unlimited supply

What a wonderful thought to think upon, when enduring a prison experience physically or spiritually, cast down, afflicted, troubled, and considering the future, there is confidence believer through it all, you have **the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.**

As stated the word **supply**, is made up of two words **Epi-choregeo**. **Epi** means **upon**, something placed upon, such as a certain responsibility place upon someone.

The second word, is **Choregeo** referring to the **leader of a chorus, the director**

In fact, the root verb choregeo gives us our English word choreography which has to do with **organising, programs, planning routines and productions.**

In Greece at that time, the leader of the chorus or poetry productions, and theatres, supplied everything that was needed for any production.

This included taking responsibility for the equipment, but also, training and paying the full expenses and wages of those who performed in the production.

In this sense **they supplied the need completely**, they took care of everything, they pour their all into their productions.

They gave liberally, generously, they held nothing back. All that was needed they made sure it was supplied.

This is the word that Paul uses lead by the Holy Spirit, in referring to the supply, an abundant provision of the Holy Spirit.

Christ had taken upon Himself the responsibilities to provide for His Church.

Christ has fully supplied the needs of His redeemed people by and through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

Every detail, and step in our lives has been divinely choreographed, therefore, Christ has met the need, supplied fully and abundantly by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore, the overall thought is that the Holy Spirit supplies all that is necessary to help and assist believers, to walk with Christ, in likeness to Christ until we are forever with Christ.

We shall never lack.

Paul's phrase refers to the benefits of redemption accomplished by Christ that are applied by the Holy Spirit, not only for salvation but for living unto God.

(Always keep in mind, there is first **the indwelling of the Holy Spirit for new life, spiritual life**, then at the same time, starts **the infilling of the spirit to walk in that new life.**

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is complete and permanent, but infilling is continuous, throughout life, yeah throughout the day.

We are indwelt once at salvation, but the need to be infilled, empowered, for service is constant.)

Paul's mind is upon Christ, even though he is in jail yet he rejoices in spiritual blessings by Christ's death, through the supply of the Spirit, until he reaches glory.

I FIRST, THE SPIRIT'S SUPPLY IS PERSONALISED

1 Paul highlights for us that Holy Spirit is a True person.

Notice, that Paul never referred to the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, by terms which false cults do such as, **an influence, a thing, an energy, a force, something unidentified, to reject his personality.**

Rather Paul makes it clear by these words the one who will supply for him is the person of the Holy Spirit.

The Saviour said Himself of the Holy Spirit's person, in **John 14:16** "...**that** he may abide with you for ever; **verse 17** "**Even the Spirit of truth....ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**"

The Holy Spirit a real person, a distinct person, who will provide and supply to Paul and all believers, the gospel blessings earned by Christ's life and purchased by Christ's blood.

2 Paul highlights for us that Holy Spirit is a Trinitarian person.

By the words, ***The Spirit of Jesus Christ***, there is identified for us, two of three persons of the blessed Godhead.

The Point is the Spirit and Christ are distinct, within the Godhead or trinity.

The Spirit is not the Son, and the Son is not the Spirit.

While the word **Trinity** is not used in the Bible, yet the clear teaching and meaning of the word **Trinity** is taught in scripture.

The word **Trinity** is derived from Latin and Greek terms meaning, **three in one, or the one which are three,**

1 John 5:7 “*for there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.*”

In **Deuteronomy 6**, Moses states in **verse 4** “**Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD.**”

When entering the land of Canaan, Moses knew the people of Canaan were polytheistic in their worship.

The word **polytheistic** is made up of two words, **poly** means **many**, **theism**, or **Theos** means **gods**.

Polytheism means **many gods or more than one god**. The people of the land worshipped many gods that were in the invention of man.

However. Moses directed the minds of the Lord’s people to consider the one and only God, therefore their worship is **monotheistic**, which means **one God**.

The word **mono** means **one**, where as the word **theo** means **god**.

Therefore, **monotheism** teaches there is only one God.

In the **Shorter Catechism, Question 6** ‘**How many persons are there in the Godhead?**’ the answer is given, ‘**There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.**’

God is one God yet there are three distinct persons who each are God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

Did you know salvation is a trinitarian Salvation. It was **Authorised** by **God the Father**. It was **Accomplished** by **God the Son**, and it was **Applied** by **the God the Holy Spirit**.

Or as Peter said in **1 Peter 1:2** “**Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.**”

Each person of the Trinity has a distinct role, in the salvation of sinners, and all three work in unity.

The Third person of the Trinity the Holy Spirit leads sinners to the second person of Trinity Jesus Christ in order for sinners to cry unto God the Father, Abba Father.

To reject the Godhead, the trinity, God in three distinct persons, is to reject, salvation.

As Paul thinks about the future while his present situation is not favourable, he knows the Holy Spirit will minister to him.

I The Spirit's supply is personalised.

II SECOND, THE SPIRIT'S SUPPLY IS PROMISED

This phrase **the Spirit of Jesus**, or similar words, were also used by Paul in **Romans 8:9**, and by Peter in **1 Peter 1:11**, **the Spirit of Christ.**”

Also, in **Galatians 4:6** “**...God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying Abba Father.**”

The sense of the words mean the ***Spirit is sent forth not only to save sinners but also to supply and support saints.***

Notice the Saviour's words before His death, in **John 14:16** ***And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever***".

The word **another** means ***another of the same kind***. The Spirit operates on behalf of the saints in the same manner as Christ did when He was with His people in the days of His flesh.

Such as to comfort by His presence;

to **educate** through the Word;

to **enable** them in their labour for Christ;

to **empower** them in the defence of the faith;

to **sanctify** them to show Christ to a corrupt but needy world.

The Holy Spirit is sent and comes to act on Christ's behalf in this world.

I want to grasp this, only the Holy Spirit of God is Vicar of Christ within the true body of believers in this world, not the Pope or any other religious person, such false professors, are another a different kind, they oppose the truth of the gospel.

The Holy Spirit supplies, provides and supports believers because He is the comforter. **John 16:7** ***...if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you***

John 15:26 ***But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me***

The word **comforter** as spoken by Christ means **to come along side**.

He supplies, assists and helps believers in prayer, service, through trials, and loneliness, as our companion. He will abide with us, stay with us.

This word **comforter** was used in **Paul's days in the Roman court system, referring to a legal advocate, one who stood by a defendant to plead that person's case and cause.**

This was the role of the Holy Spirit as their Advocate helping God's people what to say, recalling the words of Christ, so they can be wise as serpents and harmless and doves.

Luke 12:11-12 **And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and unto magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say: ¹² For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say**

Always remember **Christ prays for His people in heaven while the Holy Spirit prays for them while in their hearts**, as He supplies, provides all they need upon earth that Christ will be magnified in their lives.

Or we could say Christ is our Advocate in Heaven with the Father, and The Holy Spirit is our Advocate on earth with the Father.

In - **Romans 8:34**, Christ praying in heaven, presenting us before the Father, upon the merit of His own blood, ***It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.***

In **Romans 8:26-27** The Spirit praying on earth, presenting us before the Father, upon the basis of Christ blood's. ***Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind***

of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

After Christ's resurrection and at His ascension into Heaven, Christ said in **Luke 24:49** ***And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high***

Paul may have been in jail, but the Spirit supplied him with His presence.

Believer with life's trials and troubles upon you, when your home life is difficult. Work is challenging, health is ever changing,

Bills piling up,

your anxious about the future.

Present matters seem helpless, and there are hardships and heartbreaks, worry and weakness,

Ah, the Spirit comes along side, to help. He supplies, sustains, supports,

He gives strength in weakness, comfort in heaviness, assurance in worry, confidence in prayer, He inflames our hearts when cold, He breathes upon us when the things of world are choking us, He gives grace to keep on believing.

There is coming a day when His guidance will bring you to a final and future declaration from Christ and destination with Christ.

I The Spirit's supply is personalised & II promised.

III THIRD, THE SPIRIT'S SUPPLY IS PERPETUAL

Through.... The supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

Paul enjoyed and expected the perpetual, continual, and ongoing supply of the Spirit.

Paul said to the churches at Galatia in **Galtians 3:5** *He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit*, the word **ministereth** is the word *continually supplies*

The Lord Jesus carried out His ministry in the constant supply of the Spirit. **John 3:34** “...*For God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto Him.*”

It means the Spirit perpetually, infinitely rested upon Christ. We have the same Spirit that rested upon Jesus Christ, the Spirit which gave power to His ministry.

Therefore, believer we need the infilling of the Holy Spirit, a constant supply of power to live for Him insider and outside the home, to see believers grow, witness souls saved.

Any ministry, activity, this church seeks to do for Christ's cause, the Spirit's supply is perpetual.

We may attempt many things for God within the community, inside the church, but nothing will be achieved without the continual supply of the Spirit, upon the people and work.

It is not enough to start something with the Spirit's help and then try to do the rest ourselves, we need Him from start to completion.

The Spirit's supply makes the impossible possible, He turns hinderances into helps, barriers into blessing. He turns troubles against, into testimonies of grace.

He can take any meeting in this house, that is near dying out, and revive it, causing it to live again.

There is power to live the gospel, Christ's way by the Spirit's supply. **Zechariah 4:6** “*Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.*”

Closing Hymn, 32 Tune 480 when I survey the wonderous cross.