

I mentioned last week, that on the verge of our Savior's departure, He is giving His beloved disciples some final instruction—this instruction takes three chapters (14-16), and is typically referred to as the Upper Room Discourse—it's mostly a string of promises, that largely find their fulfilment in the single promise of the Holy Spirit...

Furthermore, I mentioned last week, that one of the difficulties in understanding it is, determining what uniquely is true for the apostles and how that applies to us—well generally speaking, it's necessary to remember, most of these promises have a direct and unique application first to the apostles and then to the church as a whole...

Now, originally I intended to consider verses 25-31, but I soon concluded there was no way I could cover all of these verses in one hour—thus, I've decided to examine verses 25-27, wherein we have two wonderful promises—the Sending of the Spirit (vv25-26), and the Giving of Peace (v27)—this will leave vv28-31 till next time...

I. The Sending of the Spirit—vv25-26

II. The Giving of Peace—v27

I. The Sending of the Spirit—vv25-26

1. V25—"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you"—here our Savior contrasts His personal teaching ministry with that of the Spirit...
2. While He was with them, He personally taught His disciples, but in His absence the Spirit would teach them...
3. It's for this reason our Savior describes the Spirit as "another Helper"—that is, He would continue Christ's ministry...
4. Or, perhaps better put—Christ Himself would continue His ministry within His people, by or through the Spirit...
5. [1] He would be sent by the Father in Christ's name—"The Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name..."
6. The Spirit would come in the name of Christ, in a similar way, Christ said He came in the name of the Father...
7. A.W. Pink—"Just as the Son had made known the Father, so the Spirit would take of the things of Christ and show them to His people. Just as the Son had glorified the Father, so the Spirit would glorify Christ. Just as, hitherto, the Savior had supplied all the needs of His own, henceforth the Comforter should fully provide for them..."
8. [2] He would teach the apostles all things—"He will teach you all things"—that is, all things necessary for themselves and their ministries...
9. Now, I personally believe that our Savior included in this instruction, that unique teaching we call inspiration...
10. That is, the Spirit would so teach them the truth to insure they would write it down without error as NT Scripture...
11. In addition to this I believe, this promise should be applied to pastor-teachers, responsible to teach God's people...
12. But, I do believe that He also meant, and possible especially meant, that regular teaching ministry of the Spirit...
13. In this sense, the Holy Spirit is given to every Christian, and yes, this includes Old and New Testament believers...
14. The obvious difference being—the Spirit as given at Pentecost, teaches Christians a fuller and final revelation...
15. Thus, when our Savior promises the Spirit as teacher, this doesn't mean He never taught the Old Testament saints...
16. It simply means—Christ would now teach His people, by His Spirit, through a FULLER and FINAL revelation...

17. [a] The Holy Spirit teaches effectually—by this I mean, the Spirit teaches the heart so as to create a real change...
18. I mentioned to some of you, that while I was recently in Columbia, the men I taught referred to me as "the teacher..."
19. And in many ways I was, "the teacher"—but brethren, all man can do is teach the mind, only God can teach the heart...
20. While the Spirit uses human teachers, only He Himself can teach the heart so as to make real and lasting changes...
21. Now, this fact, suggests an important application—we must humbly ask God to teach us by His Holy Spirit...
22. Ps.119:12—"Teach me Your statutes" v33—"Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes" v66—"Teach me good judgment and knowledge..."
23. [b] The Holy Spirit teaches Scripturally—by this I mean, the Spirit always teaches in connection to the word...
24. Now—this does not mean that the Spirit can not act outside the word—the Spirit is free to do as He sees fit...
25. But it is to say—He has generally and ordinarily bound Himself to speak and teach people, through the word...
26. This fact, has many important implications—first, it means the Spirit teaches the HEART through the MIND...
27. The Holy Spirit teaches us as rationale creatures—He doesn't bypass the mind but clarifies and sanctifies it...
28. Another implication would be—if the Spirit teaches through and with the word, then we must be in the word...
29. [c] The Holy Spirit teaches sufficiently—by this I mean, the Spirit teaches enough to keep us from falling away...
30. When our Savior says—"He will teach you all things"—we must not think He means, all things without exception...
31. The Spirit doesn't teach us everything possible, otherwise we would be God, the Holy Spirit doesn't deify us...
32. But He does mean—the Spirit will teach us "all things" necessary for our present salvation and preservation...
33. 1Jn.2:20—"But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things"—by the Holy One is meant Christ...
34. In verses 18-19 we find that false teachers had entered the church and led many people away from the truth...
35. John says, these people left the church, they left the truth, because they failed to have this anointing from God...
36. In other words, the reason why these believers did not leave the church, was because they had an anointing from Christ...
37. What is this anointing—well, brethren, let me suggest the obvious—it's not a WHAT but a WHO—it's the Spirit...
38. Notice, the result of having the anointing (or the Holy Spirit)—"and you know all things"—that is, all things necessary for your salvation and preservation...
39. The Spirit was given to ensure that they would know all things sufficient, to keep them from being led astray...
40. [3] He would remind them all that Christ taught them—"and bring to your remembrance, all things that I said to you..."
41. This has reference, in the first place, to the Spirit reminding them what Christ did and said, so that they could write it in the NT...
42. How else, could the apostles remember everything that Christ did and said—the Spirit would remind them...
43. At times, you might hear a sceptic object to the trustworthiness of the gospels, by asking—How could the disciples remember all that Christ said and did...

44. Well, here we learn how—the Holy Spirit would bring to their memories, all that Christ did and said, so that they could write it down...
45. But—I do believe our Savior had in mind more than His work of inspiration, but of Him assisting or aiding their memories...
46. That is, as they would preach and defend the truth, the Holy Spirit would enable them to remember that truth...
47. Lk.12:11-12—" Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say..."
48. But I also suggest, this ministry of the Spirit is, in some sense, for all Christians—the Spirit reminds them of truth...
49. Have you ever sought to witness to someone, and out of nowhere you remember a verse, you once memorized...
50. But I also believe, the Holy Spirit reminds us of Scripture read earlier that day, reminding us of what we learned...
51. O brethren, I fear we fail to give this aspect of the Spirit's teaching proper thought—the reminding work of the Spirit...
52. For example, a few of you know that Dan Beitzel and I, did a Facebook Live Q & A, where Dan asked me several question (all of which were very difficult)...
53. And the thing was, he didn't tell me before hand any of the questions, and so the first time I heard them was live...
54. The first question—"What does God's glory mean?"—well, as I briefly thought about it, Ex.33 and 34 came to mind (where Moses prays, Show me Your glory)...

II. The Giving of Peace—v27

1. I think we would agree, that v27 is one of those well-known verses, that most Christians could quote from memory...
2. Thus, what I want to do in considering it is, to simply suggest three descriptions about the peace Christ gives (and then I want to end by answering three questions)...
3. But before I do that, I want to briefly suggest a brief definition or description of what this peace entails or includes...
4. Simply put—the PEACE OF GOD is that inward calm of soul, that rests in the character and the Word of God...
5. Its opposite is found at the end of v37—"Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid"—a troubled and fearful heart, lacks peace...
6. The best way I know to explain this is with the illustration of an ocean—our hearts are like a massive ocean...
7. And because of various reasons, they can become troubled—they can become agitated, restless, and disturbed...
8. Thus, true peace doesn't mean the absence of trouble, but it means calm and quiet in the midst of trouble and turmoil...
9. Perhaps I can illustrate it with our Savior—Do you remember when He slept in a boat in the midst of a storm...
10. His surrounding was turbulous, and yet His soul was calm—He was at total peace, even though in a storm...
11. Thus, true peace has to do with our inward state, and not our outward condition—it's peace in the midst of a storm...
12. Or, to put it another way—it's a calm heart free from fear—it's a restful and content heart in the midst of this world...
13. Jn.16:33—"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world..."
14. First—peace comes from believing the word—"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace..."

15. Secondly—peace is found "in Christ"—"that in Me you may have peace"—this means, as we abide in Christ...
16. Thirdly—peace is found in Christ, even though—"in the world we will have tribulation"—that is, all types of storms...
17. For example—think of a shack or a little house in the middle of the Arctic—let say, in the midst of a freezing storm...
18. Though the temperature drops to -30 outside, with dangerously strong winds, there's a warm fire and shelter in the shack...
19. This is the imagery our Savior is using—in this world we have tribulation (storms)—in Him we have peace (warm and protection)...
20. Thus, I suggest, this peace in Christ, manifests itself in two primary ways—spiritual courage and contentment...
21. [a] Spiritual courage—that is, true peace guards the heart from carnal fears and worries—it strengthens the soul...
22. Phil.4:6-7—"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus..."
23. Spiritual courage is the result of having peace in our hearts, or knowing that God will provide for us and protect us in Christ...
24. [b] Contentment—that is, true peace allows us to rest and trust in God, regardless what happens around us...
25. It allows us to rest in God's promises and power, satisfied with Him, regardless of what is happening around us...
26. [1] It's gracious—"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you"—in other words, peace is a gracious gift...
27. This is an important point—true peace isn't something that we create—it's something that Christ graciously gives...
28. It's for this reason, that throughout the NT, grace and peace are often put together and always in that order...
29. For example, Paul started most of his letters by saying—"Grace to you and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ..."
30. Thus, peace is a grace, or put another way, it is a gift—true peace is a fruit of the Spirit given to us by Christ...
31. [2] It's from Christ—"Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you"—this is His peace in at least three ways...
32. [a] He experienced it—by this I mean, within His human soul, Christ perfectly experienced and exemplified peace...
33. Remember, in just a few hours our Savior is about to be betrayed, arrested, beaten, crucified, and forsaken by His Father...
34. And yet, our Savior exemplified perfect peace of soul, as He perfectly trusted the promises of His beloved Father...
35. [b] He purchased it—by this I mean, through His atoning work, He secured every blessing, including peace...
36. He purchased peace with God—this refers to that objective reconciliation that takes place between God and man...
37. By nature man is at war with God, and God is angry with man—Christ reconciles both parties, bringing peace...
38. He purchased peace of God—this refers to that subjective calm and rest that comes from having peace with God...
39. [c] He applies it—by this I mean, Christ not only purchased peace, but He applies it to His people, by the Spirit...
40. [3] It's supernatural—"not as the world gives do I give to you"—that is, there is a worldly counterfeit to peace...

41. Simply put, the peace this world gives, is necessarily tied to the things of this world—it's a worldly or carnal peace...
42. [a] It's external—that is, it's not able to give deep-down peace—it's not able to give true rest and calm to the soul...
43. [b] It's temporal—that is, even the imitation peace that it gives is temporary—it's dependant on our circumstances...
44. This peace is present only if the doctors report returns negative, or else we get the job, or else, the car is fixed...
45. The peace that this world gives, is contingent upon circumstances—it's tied to the people and possessions of this world...
46. Question 1—When does He give it—let me simply answer—the peace He gives is intended for this entire life...
47. 2Thess.3:16—"Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all..."
48. The phrase "in every circumstance" means—in times of plenty, or in times of little, in sad and in glad times...
49. But I want to suggest, that Christ especially gives this peace, during times of intense pain, trial, and difficulty...
50. For example, Horatio Spafford was a lawyer and successful businessman who lived in Chicago with his wife and five children...
51. In 1871 he lost his youngest child (a son) to pneumonia, and then most of his possessions in the Great Chicago Fire...
52. Two years later, in 1873, he sent his wife and four daughters ahead of him to England, intending to soon follow...
53. Tragically, the ship ran into another ship mid voyage, and 226 of the 313 passengers went down with the ship—including his four daughters...
54. His wife was rescued and taken to Wales, where she wired a message of only two words—**SAVED ALONE**...
55. Well, you can imagine Horatio Spafford was devastated, and he boarded a ship to accompany his wife in Wales...
56. Well, as he was traveling across the Atlantic, he was informed of the approximate place the previous ship sunk...
57. And it was there and then, that Spafford wrote his famous hymn entitled—**IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL**...
58. Hymn (580)—"When peace, like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll; whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul..."
59. Hymn—"My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul..."
60. Question 2—How does He give it—Christ gives His people peace, by the Holy Spirit and through the Holy Scriptures...
61. But, the point I want to make is, Christ ordinarily communicates this peace to His people assembled on His day...
62. Jn.20:19—"Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, Peace *be* with you..."
63. When they were assembled—"the first day of the week"—earlier that morning, our Savior rose from the dead...
64. What happened while assembled—"Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, Peace be with you..."
65. Question 3—Why does He give it—why does our Savior leave His peace—well, out of the many reasons let me merely suggest one—because He loves them...
66. And because He loves His people, He leaves them peace while in this troubling world—He gives them His peace...