

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 8-5-12 AM NOTES  
"ANOTHER PROMISE FOR TROUBLED HEARTS"  
JOHN 14:16-26  
#57 in Series, Verse-by-Verse Through John"

**John 14:1 (NKJV)** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me."

**Acts 19:2b (ESV)** "...we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit."

"Without the Spirit of God we can do nothing. We are as ships without wind or chariots without steeds. Like branches without sap, we are withered. Like coals without fire, we are useless."

—Charles Spurgeon

**John 14:15 (NKJV)** "If you love Me, keep My commandments."

I. A Promised Helper (vv. 16-17)

A. His Person (v. 16a)

**John 16:7 (NKJV)** "Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."

**1 John 2:1 (NKJV)** "My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an **Advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

B. His Permanence (v. 16b)

**Genesis 1:2b (NKJV)** "And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

**1 Samuel 16:14a (NKJV)** "But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul..."

**Psalms 51:11 (NKJV)** "Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me."

C. His Perception (v. 17a)

**1 Corinthians 2:12-14 (NIV)** "<sup>12</sup>We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup>This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. <sup>14</sup>The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."

D. His Place (v. 17b)

**1 Corinthians 6:19 (NKJV)** “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”

II. A Resurrection Life (vv. 18-19)

**Colossians 1:27b (NKJV)** “...Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

“The Holy Spirit is the one through whom God makes Himself available to us. All that Jesus is as God is put, by the Holy Spirit, at the disposal of the individual who will put, by the Holy Spirit, all that he or she is at the disposal of Jesus as God. That is the essence of the Christian life. The Christian life is a supernatural life. It is the life of Christ lived out in every believer by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit.”

—John Phillips

“Your spiritual life now, and your eternal life hereafter are both secured by *My* life. I live, have life in Myself, can never die, can never have my life destroyed by my enemies, and shall live on to all eternity. Therefore: ye shall live also—your life is secured forever, and can never be destroyed; you have [eternal] life now and shall have [eternal] glory hereafter.”

—Dr. J. C. Ryle

III. A Mystical Union (vv. 20-24)

**Romans 8:1 (ESV)** “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)** “Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

IV. A Resident Teacher (vv. 25-26)

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In John 14, we find the disciples in an upper room with Jesus just hours before He is arrested, taken through a mock trial, beaten, spit upon, His beard plucked out, and crucified. He has told His disciples that He is going to die and they are distraught. It is as if they were saying, "Lord, we have put all our eggs in your basket and now you say you are leaving us? What are we supposed to do? How are we supposed to make it without you?" In John 14-16 Jesus is answering those questions and telling them what He is going to do for them when He leaves them. Jesus first gave them a commandment in **John 14:1 (NKJV)** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me." Then in chapter 14, Jesus gives them multiple reasons why their heart should not be troubled. First, Jesus assured them that He was going to the Father's house. Second, He was going to make provision for all of His true disciples to come there. Third, Jesus promised that He would come for them so that where He was, there they could be also. Fourth, Jesus assured them that He is the only way to the Father's house and since His disciples know Him, they already know the way. Fifth, He promised them that when He was gone, they would do even greater works in extent as they shared the Gospel throughout the world. Sixth, whatever they needed to accomplish the work He was giving them to do, they could go to the Father in His name and know that they will receive whatever they need. In today's text, He gives them what is perhaps the greatest promise of all. He tells them that when He leaves, He is not leaving them alone. When He ascends back to the father, He is going to send someone who will be better for them than having Jesus beside them; He will send the Holy Spirit who will reside in them.

It is one thing to comfort troubled believers with the fact that we will one day be escorted by Jesus into the Father's house, but that is "the sweet by and by". What about the "nasty now and now"? As my friend Chuck Solomon says, "We know it will be OK when we all get to Heaven, but in the mean time it's a mean time!" The promise Jesus gives to His disciples in today's text is for that "mean time" in the "nasty now and now". This promise is about the Holy Spirit and His coming to indwell regenerated disciples of Jesus Christ.

I cannot overstate the importance of the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of a regenerated disciple of Jesus Christ. The tragedy of tragedies is that most saved people are virtually ignorant of the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life. Most church members are like the disciples of John the Baptist who said in **Acts 19:2b (ESV)** "...we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Charles Spurgeon summarizes the importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of a true disciple of Jesus Christ: "Without the Spirit of God we can do nothing. We are as ships without wind or chariots without steeds. Like branches without sap, we are withered. Like coals without fire, we are useless" [Charles Spurgeon, *2200 Quotations from the Writings of Charles H. Spurgeon*, Page 102].

Before we look at the text, let me remind you of who has the Spirit indwelling them. We learned in the last message that regenerated disciples who have savingly believed in Jesus are those who love Him and give evidence of loving Him by keeping His commandments. **John 14:15 (NKJV)** "If you love Me, keep My commandments." We saw that same truth in John 14:21, 23.

#### I. A Promised Helper (V16-17)

In the first part of verse 16 we see the Trinity. God the Son is praying. God the Father is the One to whom the prayers are directed. The One being sent is God the Spirit. Let's focus on God the Spirit.

##### A. His Person (V16a)

Obviously, the two key words in this text are "another Helper". Let's focus first on "Helper". The meaning of the Greek word translated "Helper" cannot be exhausted in just one English word. This word is translated by many different English words. In the KJV, it is translated "comforter"; in the HCSB and NIV it is translated "counselor". In the Amplified translation it is "Comforter, Counselor, Helper,

Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners” The Greek word is *parakletos*. The prefix “Para” means to come alongside. The last part of the word is the Greek word that means “to call” or “to summons”. The Holy Spirit is the One who is called alongside and the implication is that He is called alongside to aid or help. What does He aid or help us with? In the context, He helps us in all the ways that Christ helped the first disciples when He lived with them day and night for 3 years. In other words, the Holy Spirit is to Christ’s disciples all that Jesus would be to each individual disciple if He was here in a body. Jesus taught the disciples, rebuked the disciples, encouraged the disciples, gave the disciples power beyond themselves (for instance, He gave Peter the ability to walk on water). That brings us to another important word in verse 16 – “another”. There are two distinct Greek words that are translated “another” in English. One word, (“*heteros*”) means “another of a different kind”. The other word (the one used in our text – *allos*) means “another of the same kind” Let me illustrate. If I am working on a car and I say to someone who is there with me, “This wrench is one size too small; bring me another one”, I would be speaking of another one of a different kind. If I was eating a sandwich and said, “That sandwich was so good; I think I’ll fix another one”, I would mean another one of the same kind. When Jesus said that He would send “another helper”, He was saying “another of the same kind, another just like Me”. Jesus tells these disciples later that having the Helper, the Comforter, the advocate, the Holy Spirit in them is better than if Jesus stayed with them and the Holy Spirit never came. **John 16:7 (NKJV)** “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.” When Jesus Christ came here to the earth, His deity was encased in a human body. He did not cease being God, but He voluntarily limited the exercise of His omnipresence by being in a body. Jesus was only one place at a time. Compared to today, He never traveled that many miles from His home. He taught only a few thousand people. When the comforter comes, He is God the Spirit and He isn’t limited by a human body. He thus is able to personally indwell every believer to be their comforter, their helper, their advocate. Jesus didn’t cease being our helper, our comforter, our advocate when He ascended back to the Father’s house. Actually Christians now have two advocates or helpers. We have one who indwells us – the Holy Spirit, and we have one in heaven – the glorified Lord Jesus. **1 John 2:1 (NKJV)** “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” The word translated “Advocate” is the same word translated “Helper” in our text. We have a Helper in Heaven interceding for us and a Helper on earth indwelling us.

#### B. His Permanence (V16b)

Though Jesus was leaving them, the Holy Spirit would be with them forever. The disciples of Jesus were not unfamiliar with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was very active in the Old Testament. We are told that the Holy Spirit was active in creation. **Genesis 1:2b (NKJV)** “And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.” We read of the Holy Spirit empowering and enabling God’s servants in the Old Testament. At Jesus’ baptism, the Holy Spirit descended on Him like a dove. While it was the same Holy Spirit that was active in the Old Testament, Jesus was telling them about something new. In the Old Testament, the Spirit could come upon someone for the accomplishment of a task, but then the Spirit could leave. We read of Spirit of God departing from Saul in **1 Samuel 16:14a (NKJV)** “But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul...” After David’s sin with Bathsheba, He pleaded with God in **Psalms 51:11 (NKJV)** “Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.” On the day of Pentecost, what Jesus was promising in John 14:16 came to pass. The Holy Spirit began a new work of baptizing believers into Christ’s body and indwelling them. This indwelling (verse 16 tells us) is forever. The word translated “abide” in John 14:16 can be translated “remain”. Jesus promises His disciples that when He is gone back to the Father and sends the Holy Spirit, He would indwell them and remain with them forever! That was good news to disciples with a troubled heart.

#### C. His Perception (V17a)

The “world” here is speaking of those who are unregenerate – those who have not been born again. The world does not receive, know, or even see the Holy Spirit. That explains why the unregenerate person

does not understand or perceive spiritual truth. They may know quantum physics, but know nothing about eternal truths because they do not have the Spirit of truth in them. **1 Corinthians 2:12-14 (NIV)** “<sup>12</sup> We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. <sup>13</sup> This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. <sup>14</sup> The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

#### D. His Place (V17b)

Here Jesus enlarges on verse 16. He tells His disciples that when He is gone and the Holy Spirit comes, He will dwell not only with them, He will dwell in them! Jesus is promising His disciples that their bodies would become the permanent temple of the Holy Spirit. **1 Corinthians 6:19 (NKJV)** “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” Think of it: a member of the Trinity condescending to take up permanent residence in our spirit to be in us all that Jesus would have been were He with us. What a promise!

## II. A Resurrection Life (V18-19)

What is Jesus referring to when He says in verse 18, “I will come to you”? Some say that this was a reference to the resurrection. I wouldn’t argue with that, but I think it is more than that. Three days after He was crucified, Jesus rose literally and bodily from the grave. However, a few days after He rose from the dead and appeared to more than 500 believers and all the disciples, He ascended back to the Father. I believe that when He said that He would come to them, He was speaking of the coming of His Spirit. The Holy Spirit is sometimes called “the Spirit of Christ” (Romans 8:9). Christ has come to dwell in us through the presence of His Spirit. This is a part of the mystery of the Trinity. The Bible often speaks of the Holy Spirit being in the Christian, but it also speaks of Christ being in us. **Colossians 1:27b (NKJV)** “...Christ in you, the hope of glory.” While we cannot fully comprehend this, we can embrace it by faith and in so doing walk in a way that glorifies Christ. The Christian life is Christ. He is the only one who can live the Christian life. At salvation, we have the Spirit of Christ living in us. This is our only hope of glorifying Him in our daily walk. The Christian life “works” when the Spirit of Christ in me fills me and lives out Christ’s life through me. I sign a “declaration of dependence” upon Him and walk trusting Him to empower me and live out Christ’s life through me. That’s when my life looks like Jesus. John Phillips put it this way: “The Holy Spirit is the one through whom God makes Himself available to us. All that Jesus is as God is put, by the Holy Spirit, at the disposal of the individual who will put, by the Holy Spirit, all that he or she is at the disposal of Jesus as God. That is the essence of the Christian life. The Christian life is a supernatural life. It is the life of Christ lived out in every believer by means of the indwelling Holy Spirit” [John Phillips, *Exploring the Gospels – John*, Page 274].

In verse 19 Jesus is promising His disciples His resurrection life. At salvation, we are made a new creation in Christ, we are united to Christ and we become a partaker of His resurrection life. That resurrection life of Christ is called “eternal life” in the New Testament. That is what Jesus is promising His disciples in verse 19. Because He lives and because He is in us in the person of the Holy Spirit, we share His resurrection life.

I love Dr. J. C. Ryle’s expanded translation of verse 19: Jesus says, “Your spiritual life now, and your eternal life hereafter are both secured by *My* life. I live, have life in Myself, can never die, can never have my life destroyed by my enemies, and shall live on to all eternity. Therefore: ye shall live also – your life is secured forever, and can never be destroyed; you have [eternal] life now and shall have [eternal] glory hereafter” [Dr. J. C. Ryle, quoted in Arthur Pink, *Exposition of the Gospel of John*, Page 374].

## III. A Mystical Union (V20-24)

We looked at verses 21-24 in our last study, so I want to focus on verse 20. This verse contains such simple words and yet this verse is so deep that we will never fully comprehend it. When Jesus speaks of “that day”, He is speaking of the day the Holy Spirit comes to baptize believers into the body of Christ

and to indwell believers. While these disciples looked forward to that day, we look back on that day – the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came. When Jesus says that He is in His Father, He is affirming that He and the Father are one. I don't fully get that because it is shrouded in the mystery of the Trinity. He was primarily affirming His deity. Next, Jesus says "and you in Me". That is our union with Christ. It is not the same as the Son being in the Father, because we do not become part of the Godhead. To be in Christ is to be united with Him in His death, burial and resurrection. It is a living union that means I partake of His eternal life. The Bible uses several metaphors to picture this union with Christ. Jesus is the vine and we are the branches (John 15:5), we are the body of Christ and He is the head (1 Corinthians 12:27), and we are the bride and He is the groom (Ephesians 5:22-24). This union is referred to in the Epistles of the New Testament as being "in Christ". For example, we read in **Romans 8:1 (ESV)** "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are **in Christ Jesus.**" **2 Corinthians 5:17 (NKJV)** "Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." Christ is in the Father, we are in Christ, and Christ is in us. As we have already seen, Christ is in us in the person of the Holy Spirit whom Christ is sending as another of the very same kind to be our helper, comforter, advocate as He dwells in us.

#### IV. A Resident Teacher (V25-26)

Back in John 14:17, the Holy Spirit is called "the Spirit of truth". In John 14:6, Jesus tells us that He is the truth. He is leaving, but He is not leaving us without truth. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth! The Father will send the Spirit of truth in Jesus' name. That means in His stead, in His place. What will the Spirit of truth do? **John 14:26b (NKJV)** "He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." There is certainly an immediate application here to the writing of Scripture that would not be subject to vague remembrances of fallible disciples. Every book of the New Testament was written by one of the apostles (including Paul) or a close associate of an apostle. As it relates to us, the indwelling Holy Spirit will do two things in relation to truth. First, He will teach us all that we need to know to make the best decisions and to have discernment for every situation. In Isaiah, He is called the Spirit of knowledge, understanding, wisdom, and guidance. Second, He will remind us of what the Lord has told us. He will bring to our minds the truths of Scripture that we have read, heard, and learned. The Holy Spirit is our resident truth teacher.

#### CONCLUSION

Indwelt by the Spirit of Christ, set free from the slavery of sin through their union with Christ, being given truth by the Spirit of truth, these disciples made disciple who made other disciples and changed the world. Today, every person who has repented of sin and savingly believed on Christ has that same Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ indwelling them. Why are we not changing our world, our country, our community, our church, our home?