

The Word Gives Peaceⁱ

Restoration of Faith Bible Study Notes (John 14:12-26)

Friday 22 July 2022

Introduction/Background

Last week we ended in John 12 which was in the last week of Jesus' life before he went to the cross, where he exclaimed about himself when he cried out publically that he and the Father are one, in other words he was claiming to be God or the Messiah. The key verse for last week was John 12: 46 *"I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness."*

Tonight we are going to stay in the book of John, going forward to chapter 14, and we are now in the last evening of Jesus' life before he went to the cross, in fact we are in the upper room just after the last supper. This week we are going to focus on a study of what Jesus promised us about the Holy Spirit. What we skipped across in John 13 was Jesus washing the disciples' feet, and the last supper where Jesus predicts his betrayal by Judas Iscariot who leaves to go betray Jesus, and Jesus predicts his denial by Peter. Starting in John 14 Jesus talks about preparing a place for us in heaven, and in John 14:6 Jesus says one of His most famous I AM statements, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father but through me."* Then, Jesus has a discussion with two of his disciples Thomas and Philip, about He and the Father being one. Now that we are caught up, we are going start here in John 14:12-26 tonight.

Background Context

[Read John 14:12-14]ⁱⁱ

Originally I was going to start in verse 15, but my wife suggested that I teach some on prayer this week, so I want us to open up tonight with this 3 verse section on prayer starting in verses 12-14, and then we are also going to be praying for the needs of the church after this study on the Holy Spirit tonight.

¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

Now that is a prayer of faith! If we believe in Jesus, then we will do even greater things than he did?! Have we seen any signs/wonders/miracles? Have we seen any healings? Have we seen any deliverances? Have we done the works that Jesus did while He was here on earth? Whatever we ask (pray) in the name of Jesus he will do, anything. Now that is real faith! Jesus says we can get 100% of our prayers answered. Why don't we see many of our prayers answered?

Question 1: Are there any hindrances in our faith that cause us to not see our prayers answered or cause us not to believe or have faith in this statement in John 14:14? How do we overcome those hindrances and increase our faith to see more answers to prayer?

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-17)

Initial Requirements

[Read John 14:15]

Verse 15 Jesus says, *"If you love me, keep my commands."* Love (Strong's 25 agapate verb to love, root agape). Note: this is Agape love, the unconditional love of God. Not the Phileo brotherly love or the Eros emotional fickle mushy love. Genuine Christians who love Jesus just don't believe, they obey.

Question 1: Can you quickly name some of the commandments that we need to keep? (Reference: Exodus 20, the Ten Commandments)

Firm Promise

[Read John 14:16-17]

Let's take verse 16 and the first part of verse 17 first.

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth.

The word “AND” is a very important starting word here, it is right after verse 15 which talks about love and keeping my commands, so the two (love/keeping commands AND the giving of the Holy Spirit) are linked together. So if you can't do something on your own, you need help so you need a what? A Helper.

So Jesus asks the Father, and the Father sends us another Advocate (NIV) Comforter (KJV) Helper (NKJV/NASB) that he may abide with you forever. The word for advocate, comforter or helper used here is (Strong's 3875) Parakleton which is from the root Parakletos. The definition of the Greek word Parakletos - called to one's aid, an advocate, intercessor, a consoler, comforter, helper, properly a legal advocate like a lawyer who gives evidence that stands up in court.

In the last part of verse 17...

The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

Remember the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus are linked, those in the world cannot have the Holy Spirit indwell them and they cannot accept Him. Unsaved people do unsaved things. So the initial requirement is you have to be a follower of Jesus to have the Holy Spirit indwelling, salvation is a pre-requisite.

This verse ends with a very important concept about the Holy Spirit “with you” and “in you.” In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit came and went from time to time on different people for different reasons. As Pentecostal people, we are very familiar with the presence of the Holy Spirit showing up in our services and prayer times, and that is “with you”. However, in the transition to the New Testament on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 (ref Joel 2:28) where the Holy Spirit was poured out, started a new concept of the Holy Spirit “in you.” We all as Born Again Christians have the Holy Spirit within us given as a seal or guarantee of our salvation (Reference 2 Corinthians 1:22, Ephesians 1:13-14, Ephesians 4:30), and those who have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit are spirit filled followers of Christ have an overflowing of the Holy Spirit within us and we take Him everywhere with us at all times. It is a different dispensation and a big difference between the OT and the NT.

Question 2: What has been your experience with the Holy Spirit? How has He been your comforter or your helper?

Assurance by the Son (John 14:18-24)

Presence

[Read John 14:18]

¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

This verse is an assurance by Jesus. He had spent the last three years of his life with his 12 disciples, and now he was telling them that “Sorry, but I have to leave now.” Wouldn’t you feel sad or concerned that he might be abandoning you?

Question 3: Has anyone ever felt abandoned or orphaned or alone with a broken heart? Describe how you would feel if somebody close to you told you they were leaving you?

Life, Knowledge, Obedience

[Read John 14:19-21]

¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

Verse 19 is another assurance by Jesus. We have an assurance of life with Jesus in heaven. It reminds me of that old Gaither’s song, Because He Livesⁱⁱⁱ. How does the chorus go? “Because He Lives I can face tomorrow, because he lives all fear is gone, because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives.”

In verse 20, we will have that knowledge that Jesus is in the Father. Then just like in verse 15, in verse 21 Jesus repeats that love and keeping His commands is linked together.

Clarification

[Read John 14:22-24]

²² Then Judas (not Judas Iscariot) said, “But, Lord, why do you intend to show yourself to us and not to the world?” ²³ Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me

will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.

Everybody knows that there was more than one Judas who was a disciple right? There were actually 2 of them named Judas. I mean I would change my name too in order to avoid the questions lol. The second one was also known as Jude who is the author of the book of Jude. Jude had a question and Jesus clarified it for him. Jesus says look those who are in the world don't know me, and you do love me and know me. But the promise is that Jesus and the father will come to those who do love them.

Question 4: When you are in a crisis situation, how do you know when it's better to voice your concerns and when it's better to remain quiet? No cop outs with "it depends..."

Purpose of the Holy Spirit (John 14:25-26)

²⁵ "All this I have spoken while still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

As a pastor, I have had this happen to me a lot. When I am preaching, and all of a sudden I will cite a verse that wasn't in my notes by memory because the Holy Spirit brings that verse to memory at the time I need it. Or in prayer, you are praying and then all of a sudden you are quoting scripture and praying it out to God. That is the Holy Spirit reminding you of everything that Jesus had said to you. And we get that input from Jesus first by reading the Word of God the Bible.

Question 5: How do you respond to someone who claims to have had a revelation from the Holy Spirit?

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