

“Love & the Spirit”

John 14:15-31

August 10, 2014

15“If you love Me, you will obey My commandments. **16**“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; **17***that is* the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

18“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. **19**“After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you *will* see Me; because I live, you will live also. **20**“In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. **21**“He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.” **22**Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?” **23**Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him. **24**“He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

25“These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. **26**“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. **27**“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. **28**“You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. **29**“Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe. **30**“I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; **31**but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.

VIDEO: *Gospel of John 13:31 – 14:14*

Chapters 1-12: Public ministry...

Ch. 13-17: Private ministry... (Upper-room – to Garden)

13:1 Posturing

13:2-32: Purging

13:33-35: Purifying

13:36 – 14:14: Promising

Church People

Peter

Thomas

Philip

VIDEO: *“Hope In Front of Me”*

Church Perspective

the Way

the Truth

the Life

the Only...

Church Prayer

“in My name...”

“I will do it...”

Introductory Quote:

THE APPLICATION OF chapter 14 is significant since for the first time in this Gospel, Jesus speaks in detail to his followers concerning their experience in the church following his departure... This chapter is filled with promises addressed directly to the community of faith, (not to the clergy in Jerusalem or to the crowds in Galilee). Jesus is now anticipating that the community he has built (the Church)... will continue his work when He is gone.

- NIV Application Commentary

*The disciples' lives will be a continuation
of Jesus' life in the world.*

- Gary Hodge

VIDEO: *Gospel of John 14:15-31*

******* Conditional Connection *******

15*"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.*

******* Conditional Connection *******

Truth, Love, & Obedience = ***Christian Affirmation***

God's Word & Jesus himself repeatedly emphasized that faithful obedience characterizes all TRUE Christians:

Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,'" Jesus demanded, "and do not do what I say?" (Luke 6:46).

The one who "does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him" (John 3:36).

Those "who are selfishly ambitious and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, [will face God's] wrath and indignation" (Rom. 2:8)...

On the other hand, God's Word says: the unregenerate are those who "do not obey the gospel of God" (1 Peter 4:17).

1 John 2:3-5

By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected.

16“I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;

QT: The Holy Spirit is a *paraklētos* (“paraclete”) which means “called alongside to assist & strengthen.”

The Holy Spirit does not work instead of us, or in spite of us, but in us and through us. – Warren Wiersbe

“ANOTHER” = “another of the same kind”

Holy Spirit is/as God: [Acts 5:3-4](#) & [2 Corinthians 3:17](#)

Jesus the Paraclete is now sending a second Paraclete. This means that the ongoing work of the Spirit will be a continuation of the work of Jesus during the disciples' lifetime.

SEE the Trinity/”Quad”

Advocate = Jesus, the Son
Provider = God, the Father
2nd Advocate = Spirit (of truth)
Christian = "you" (recipient of Advocate)

Eternal:

Trinity = "He... with you forever"
Christian = "with YOU forever"

17that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

"A natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God," wrote Paul, "for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised" ([1 Cor. 2:14](#);

v.17: Holy Spirit = "Spirit of truth"

NOTE: "the world cannot receive" (Him)

NOTE: **“but”** (see the eternal CONTRAST)

“YOU know Him”

“because He abides with you”

“AND”

He “will BE IN you.”

Summary of vv.12-17...

Christ’s true disciples will be empowered by the Spirit to sustain his mighty work in the world ([14:12-17](#)).

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

VIDEO: ***“Never Gone”***

I will come to you = 3X

Easter

Pentecost

Second Coming

v.18: **Promise elevated...**

NOTE: earlier: *“I will come BACK FOR you”*

NOW: *“I will COME TO you”*

*** Jesus & the Spirit are ONE!

19“After a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me; because I live, you will live also.

Is Jesus ALIVE in your theology???

Do you LIVE as tho He IS alive???

Your answer to #2 is your answer to #1!

And your eternity rests on your answer to #1.

v.19: **Contrast & Connection** (REMEMBER JUDAS!!!)

Christians are **contrasted** with the world...

(we will see Jesus & they will not)

(we will live... they will die – both eternal!)

Christians are **connected** with Christ...

(we are in-Christ, the world is NOT)

(because He lives, we will live also!)

20***In that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.***

ILLUSTRATION: “Russian Nesting Dolls”

KEY to discern this verse: “THAT DAY”

“that day” = day the Spirit comes (personally)

“you will KNOW” = impact of “Spirit of truth”

21***He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.***

OBEDIENCE is the proof of Love...

“Love to live... and live to love!” - JDP

OBEDIENCE is the proof of the Spirit’s indwelling.

Love is the lighthouse of the heart...

“Faithful obedience is the birth-certificate of Christ-like love.” - JDP

Love unifies us... with the Father, Son, Holy Spirit, & Church.

22Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, what then has happened that You are going to disclose Yourself to us and not to the world?”

Here is **the 4th “Confused Christian”** in the dialogue...

NOTE: confusion shifts from the Son... to the Spirit

Paraphrase: “Why can we see you, when they won’t?”

NOTE: the issue once again addresses the difference between the lost & the found, the dead and the living, the light and the dark, the children of God vs. the children of the Devil...

23 Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

Jesus repeats His answer like a beating drum...

IF you love Me, you will obey Me, & We will be 1!

QT: **Spurgeon =** "Little faith will take your soul to heaven, but great faith will bring heaven to your soul."

24 “He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.

Inverted truth... “If you don’t... WE won’t!

Don’t love = don’t Live.

Behavior reveals nature. – JDP

Consistent patterns of behavior reveal the deepest desires of one’s heart. – JDP

NOTE: Jesus says: “These aren’t My words... but My Father’s Words.”

In suit, I say to you: “These are not my words...”

“Disobedience leads to destruction.” – JDP

When he returns at Easter ("before long," 14:19), he and the Father will reside within them, making a "home" (Gk. *mone*) within them (14:23). That is, the places of dwelling promised in 14:2 will be realized as places of "indwelling" in 14:23.

- NIV Application Commentary

T/S: THE SECOND PROMISE of the Paraclete (14:25-26)

Just as Jesus' primary work was revealing the Father (1:18), so now the work of the Spirit-Paraclete is revealing the "Jesus of history" to his followers.

- NIV Application Commentary

Jesus will not make Himself known to those who reject Him

John **8:47**

"He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear them, because you are not of God."

25“*These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you.*”

QT: **The world bases its peace on its *resources*, while God's peace depends on *relationship*.**

In the world, peace is something you hope for or work for... but to the Christian, peace is God's wonderful gift, received by faith.

People in the world walk by sight and depend on the externals, while Christians walk by faith and depend on the Eternals.

- Wiersbe

26“*But the Helper (“Paraclete,”) the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.*”

“the Helper”

Identified as the Holy Spirit

Sent by the Father... in Jesus name

The Holy Spirit is a true Christian’s in-heart truth-teacher:

1 John 2:27

But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.

If your relationship with sin AND the Spirit have not changed radically... you're not saved yet. - JDP

To have this Spirit is to have the catalogue of gifts listed in this chapter. Powerful works (14:12), effective prayer (14:13), and the peace of God (14:27) all deserve careful application today.

Aware of the disciples' distress, Jesus pointed them to the ultimate and only sure source of hope—the triune God.

- MacArthur

(Expound upon Corinthians 12 & 14)

27 *“Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.”*

VIDEO: *Hawk Nelson – “Faithful”*

“Peace”

Jesus is emphatic: ***“MY peace I give you!”***

“NOT the peace the world gives...”

Jesus says: I don’t give worldly “anything!”

“Do not let your heart be troubled...”

Repetition means emphasis... Jesus repeats Himself!

NOTE: Jesus is going to the cross... and remains concerned for their heavy hearts.

“Fear not! (a.k.a. “nor let your heart be fearful”)

“Fear not!” = the most frequent command in the Bible

CONTRAST to Peace: *NOT as the world gives...*

QT: *The world only offers an experience of a momentary, fleeting tranquility through self-indulgence... and/or a host of other placebos. But the world's pseudo-peace is in reality the bliss of ignorance. If unbelievers understood the wrath of God, and the agonizing, unrelieved, eternal torment awaiting them in hell, they would never enjoy even a moment's peace in this life.*

-- MacArthur New Testament Commentary

Wolves peddle false peace....

QT: *The world's peace is only an illusion... The reason people lack peace is not emotional, psychological, or circumstantial, but theological.* - MacArthur

Paul wrote to the Corinthians,

We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed... For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. ([2 Cor. 4:8-9,17-18](#))

Living in unrepentant sin forfeits the experience of peace and assurance that is Christ's legacy to His people.

28 *“You heard that I said to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.*”

Unpack this verse slowly & carefully... it reveals a lot!

Jesus starts by saying: “Remember what I told you...”

See the conditional relationship here...

- ***IF you love Me...***
- A lover of Jesus “*would have rejoiced*”
- BECAUSE (pivot point... lynch-pin)
- “*I go to the Father*”
 - **Jesus leaves... Lovers rejoice!**
 - Love wants what is best for the other

“for the Father is greater than I”

Be careful not to over-state this verse...

- a. “greater” does not mean value or identity
- b. “greater” refers to “role” only

29“Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.”

Jesus is repeating Himself again...

The emphasis is on Christ's sovereign providence!

30“I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me; **31**but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.

Jesus' obedience to God's plan ([14:31a](#)) within these events should be seen as an example of his love for the Father (a love, hopefully, every disciple will imitate, [14:21](#))...

QT: John Piper:
"First the agony of the cross, then the ecstasy of heaven. There was no other way.... The crucifixion of Christ did not merely precede the crown; it was the price, and the crown was the prize. He died to have it."

Closing Quote:

This experience of the Spirit promised by Jesus also points to benefits that are truly astounding. Believers will sustain the miraculous works of Jesus (14:12), they will have intimacy with God in prayer (14:13-14), and they will recall God's word with conviction (14:25; 1 John 2:22-27)—all with the aid of the Spirit. A brief perusal of the book of Acts shows that this is exactly the profile of the earliest Christians, and it is safe to assume that this must have been the experience of the believers in John's church. Christians were reproducing not merely the work of Jesus; they were continuing the *presence of Jesus* in the world. Perhaps we could put it this way: As the Son incarnated the Father's presence in the world, so now the Spirit brings the Son's presence into the world through the life of the believer.

- Gary Hodge

Closing Point:

Love & “good news” literally “fills the faithful”

SEE Corinthians 13...

“Holy Spirit LOVE sandwich”

(between ch. 12 & 14)

VIDEO: *“Proof of Your Love”*

Let's Pray