

John 16:8-11
Our Greatest Ally

INTRO: You are never alone (Christian)! The Holy Spirit is our greatest ally! Help is on His way!

The Spirit's Threefold Ministry in Relation to the Big, Bad World.

1) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World of its Sin.

(John 16:8-9; 15:22; Eph. 5:13-14; Acts 2:37-41)

2) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World Concerning True & _____ Righteousness.

(John 16:8, 10; 1 Timothy 3:16; Romans 3:25-26; 10:3f; 2 Cor. 5:21)

3) The Holy Spirit Convicts the World of Judgment.

(John 16:8, 11; 12:31; Genesis 3:15; Col. 2:13-15; 1 John 3:8; Rev. 20:10-15)

For Further Reflection/Application: *Lord help us to be effectually doers of the Word!*

Main takeaway from last week's exposition of John 16:4-7. *"I tell you the truth guys, it is actually advantageous for you for Me to go, that He should come, in all of His fulness."*

How should the New Covenant ministry of the Holy Spirit encourage and comfort believers (especially those "hated without cause" and/or those who are being persecuted for righteousness' sake)? (Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:18-20a)

In what respect is the Holy Spirit's the disciple's greatest ally? Note John 16:8-10 and the three main sermon points today.

How were you particularly comforted/encouraged/challenged/convicted as you listened to God's Word today? What do you want to study further as a result of this morning's sermon?

Talk about some of the ways the Holy Spirit is abused today (among professing Christians).

Talk about some of the ways the Holy Spirit is ignored today (often as an unintentional overcorrection to the abuses within the Pentecostal/Charismatic movement).

One author reminds us that the doctrine of the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit in John 16 directly applies to evangelism. "1) When opening up the Bible and sharing Christ with the lost the message we communicate must be biblical; it must be accurate. This may seem an unnecessary caution, yet much of so-called evangelism communicates an unclear, incomplete, or wrong gospel. 2) Conviction is the work of the Holy Spirit. Leave the responsibility with Him. Man cannot convince the unbeliever, God must. We plead with sinners to repent and believe, and earnestly pray for them but we leave the ministry of the Holy Spirit to the Holy Spirit. 3) The believer is to depend on the work of the Holy Spirit. This depending is faith. Prayer often demonstrates that a believer is relying on the Lord. 4) Try not to take evangelistic victories or defeats personally. The ministry of evangelism is the grace work of God. 5) Give God the glory when the Spirit does a mighty work in someone's life!"

Jesus, the true Light of the world, exposes sin (John 3:19-20). The Holy Spirit continues this ministry. "How can someone's voice penetrate minds, take root there, and eventually produce fruit making hearts of stone into hearts of flesh and renewing the people themselves unless the Spirit of Christ makes the Word alive."

What are some reasons you might not realize the Spirit's power in your life and ministry?

Related Songs: Hymns- *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken. How Firm a Foundation. A Mighty Fortress is our God. Sovereign Grace Music-* *How Long, O Lord. Come For Us. How Long, O Lord, How Long (Psalm 13). When We See Your Face. Getty-* *He Will Hold Me Fast. O Church Arise. The Lord is My Salvation. Matt Boswell-* *God the Spirit. Steven Curtis Chapman-* *For the Sake of the Call.*

2 Major Takeaways from John 15:26-16:4a sermon

- 1) Christ Abundantly Aids His People, Especially Faithful Disciples who are Persecuted for Righteousness Sake. (*John 15:26-27; 14:16-18; Acts 1:3-11*)
- 2) Christ Forewarns His Disciples to Forearm Them For the Coming Conflict with the Hostile World. (*John 15:28-16:4a; 15:18-25; Matthew 5:11-12; 2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 4:12-14*)

5 Ways the Spirit “Helps” New Covenant Saints (1/29/23 sermon application)

- 1) The Helper Empowers and Emboldens Disciples of Christ.
(Acts 1:8; 4:31, etc.)
- 2) The Helper Guides and Leads Jesus’ People. (Don’t misapply this point!)
(Ephesians 5:18-21; Acts 8:29; 10:19-20; 16:16-20)
- 3) The Helper Supplies God’s People with a Diversity of Spiritual Gifts for the Unity and the Maturation of the Body of Christ.
(1 Peter 4:10-11; 1 Cor. 12-14; Eph. 4:11-16)
- 4) The Helper Liberates Us from the Bondage and Law of Sin and Death.
(Romans 7-8; 2 Corinthians 3; Galatians 5)
- 5) The Helper and our Great High Priest Intercede on behalf of God’s people.
(Romans 8:26-34; Hebrews 7:23-26; Hebrews 8:1-2)

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