

Lighthouse Bible Church

July 27, 2014

John 16: 12 – 15 *Scripture Reading: Psalm 19*

‘The Revelation of Divine Truth’

Stand – Read – Pray

We saw last week in Verse 8 – 11, that after Jesus goes to the Father and sends the Helper, the Holy Spirit of God to indwell believers, Jesus said the ministry of the Holy Spirit will be to ‘convict the world of sin, and of righteousness and of judgment to come.

We saw that the Holy Spirit convicts someone of their sin of unbelief in Jesus. We saw that the Holy Spirit convicts someone of their own unrighteousness by showing them the absolute righteousness of Jesus Christ and we saw that the Holy Spirit convicts someone by showing them the judgment that awaits anyone who rejects Jesus Christ as their Savior and sin bearer.

And remember, Jesus has been telling all of this to His disciples just hours before He would be taken and crucified and killed. He wants to assure them and comfort them with the promise of the Holy Spirit and what His ministry will be. Now He is going to tell them that, in addition to the convicting and convincing ministry of the Holy Spirit to the world, the Holy Spirit of truth is going to guide them into all truth. He is going to reveal divine truth to the disciples, and that is the key to this passage as we shall see.

What is the ‘**all truth**’ that the Holy Spirit will guide them into? Well, the Spirit's ministry is to reveal God's truth and what we have here is the promise of the New Testament, the written Word of God inspired by God through the Holy Spirit of God.

Remember what **John 8: 31 – 32** said **if you abide in My word you are My disciples indeed and you shall know the TRUTH and the truth shall make you free.** His words are equated with absolute truth. That is why He is going to say later in **John 17: 17** **sanctify them by Your TRUTH, Your word is truth.**

What Jesus is saying is ‘I am sending you the Holy Spirit of Truth to live in you and He will **guide you into all truth** as He reveals Me to you and you write about Me because **He will take what is Mine and declare to you** as **Verses 14 and 15** say. And through the moving of the Holy Spirit of God they would pen those truths into what we know as the New Testament.

The Bible says that is exactly what happened, the New Testament was authored by the Holy Spirit. **2nd Peter 1: 21** says **for prophecy never came by the will of man but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.** And of course, **2nd Timothy 3: 16** says that **all scripture is God breathed and is profitable...**

So in that sense, this passage is one of those that speaks directly to the disciples of Christ primarily and to us by application secondarily. We can’t claim nor do we receive today any more divine revelation from God. His revelation is complete in His word. **Hebrews 1: 1 – 2** says **God who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...**

There is no new revelation or new writings from some supposed divine understanding, that is why it says over and over again that we are not to add to or take away from this book, like many religions and cults do today, because it is complete. What we do receive today is the illumination, instruction and teaching of God’s already revealed Word.

And if the Bible is God’s word, which it is, then we should listen to what it has to say and obey what it commands of us because we do believe it.

How do we know the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only complete truth that we need? Think about the **Unity** of the Bible; it is **66 books** that were written over a period of about **1400 years** by some **40 authors** and there is not one contradiction or disagreement with them. *Just play telephone some time and see how really incredible the Bible is.*

Not only that, but this book is **Historically** accurate and **Archeologically** accurate. Everything mentioned in the Bible has been confirmed historically or archeologically and if it hasn't been it is because it hasn't been discovered yet. The Bible is far ahead of what history and archeology have revealed and found.

Every city, every animal, every plant, every tool, every object, every type of money, every body of land and every body of water mentioned in the Bible has been verified as existing and accurate. Not so with the Book of Mormon.

Not only that, but this book is **Scientifically** accurate. As a matter of fact, science is just now catching up with what the Bible has said all along. Just the book of Job describes things that only in the last 200 years have been discovered by scientists. **Job 10: 11** he describes the intricacy of the human body. In **Job 26: 7 – 8** he talks about the earth hanging on nothing and the moisture in the clouds and how water freezes and they hydrological system of water and evaporation also in **Job 37: 9 – 13**.

Not only that, but this book is **prophetically** accurate. It makes predictions that are so accurate that the odds of them being fulfilled are astronomical. It has fulfilled predictions about people, places, events, wars, earthquakes, births, deaths and everything.

And that is one thing that sets the Word of God apart from any other book, its prophecies are 100% accurate. And by the way, Jesus said in **Matthew 5: 18 till heaven and earth pass away not one jot or one tittle will by any means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.**

Think about this; if this Bible is not the 100% completeness and all we need truth, without any error or contradiction Word of God as Jesus says, then there are only 3 possibilities; Jesus knew there were errors and hid them from us which means He lied to us. Jesus didn't know if there were any errors which means He is not God, or there are no errors. **Psalm 119: 89 says forever O Lord Your Word is settled in heaven.** Later in **Psalm 138: 2 it says God has magnified His word above His name.**

And so now, in our passage this morning, we are going to see why Jesus tells them He is sending the Holy Spirit to do this work in them. Look at it starting in:

Verse 12: I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

Jesus says 'I'm not going to tell you any more now because you can't **bear** it now, you can't handle it now, you can't receive it now, you can't understand it now; and you can't, in part, because of the sorrow in your hearts and you lack of understanding of My need to leave and the impact of My dying on the cross.

In **Mark 9: 32** after Jesus explained to them about His pending betrayal, death and resurrection it says **but they did not understand this saying..** Jesus tells them in **Luke 18: 31 – 34** the same thing with more detail about what would happen to Him before He is killed and raised from the dead and then it says **but they understood none of these things..**

Let me say this: we don't have that same excuse today. They didn't understand and they didn't have the Holy Spirit and they had a different view of Jesus.

We have the Holy Spirit living within us that **1st Corinthians 1: 10 – 14** says gives us understanding of spiritual things. We have the total, complete Word of God and we have the author of the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit living within us.

So if you have been with Jesus as long as the disciples had, for 3 years, knowing what you know today, having what you have today, it would be inexcusable for us to have the same kind of ignorance the disciples had. But unfortunately, that is where some Christians are today. They have known Christ for a long time yet they are still spiritual babes.

Paul said in **1st Corinthians 3: 1 – 3** *Read*

The writer of Hebrews says in **Hebrews 5: 12 – 13** **for though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the Scriptures of God and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness for he is a babe...**

As Peter said in **1st Peter 2: 1** we are to **desire the pure milk of the word**, but we do so, so that we can **grow**. We don't stay spiritual infants, especially for those who have been with Christ for any length of time.

So Jesus tells them 'I still have many things to tell you but you are not ready now'. And it would be hard for them to understand the cross and His death and resurrection and ascension before they happen. So He says 'you have enough for now'. By the way that phrase **many THINGS**, that word 'things' is not new things, not new revelations, but it means a clarification or amplification of what has already been taught to them. That is what the whole New Testament is about, isn't it, the amplification and clarification about Jesus. But then He says this in Verse 13.

Verse 13: However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak and He will tell you things to come.

Jesus says ‘the Holy Spirit of truth will pick up where I left off, He will guide you into all truth’. So not only is the Holy Spirit going to be the promise they receive, and the power they have to witness about Jesus and what will convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment, He will reveal God’s truth to them and through them and guide them into all truth.

What He means by **all truth** is all the truth necessary to know about God and Christ and salvation and sanctification and the gospel and how to live, act and talk like Christ. It is all the truth necessary to become a Christian and to live like Christ.

In other words the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples in the New Testament what He did for the prophets of the Old Testament in guiding them into all the truth in written form. Remember **2nd Peter 1: 21** where it said the scriptures came about as **holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit of God**. The Holy Spirit did that in the O.T. and now He will do it in the N.T. so that we have the total and complete inspired by the Holy Spirit word of God.

That is why the Holy Spirit, in Verse 13, is called the Holy Spirit of **truth**, because He speaks and **declares** only the truth that He hears from Jesus and what Jesus has heard from the Father. You have the entire Trinity of God in the revelation of Scripture.

Listen, the Holy Spirit of God is not going to give some revelation independent of God and Christ. Whatever He says and however He leads will be consistent with the Father and the Son. I have to tell you, some of the things that are attributed to the Holy Spirit today are not.

One writer said “the Spirit will always speak God’s truth and He will always lead you consistent with God’s truth. If you want to know if the Spirit of God is leading you in your life, read the Scriptures and if it is consistent with Scripture, that is the leading of the Holy Spirit”. *MacArthur GTY John 16*.

Notice at the end of Verse 13 Jesus says that the Holy Spirit **will tell you things to come**. What does ‘the things to come’ encompass? Well, everything we read in Scripture from the beginning of the church age, to the rapture of the church, to the tribulation period, to the return of Jesus Christ to the millennial reign to the destruction of heaven and earth and the beginning of all eternity; that are all revealed in the New Testament.

And if you think about it **John 14: 26** says **the Holy Spirit will bring all things to your remembrance**; He reveals the past. In **John 15: 26** says **the Holy Spirit will testify of Jesus** and so will the disciples; in the present; and here we have the Holy Spirit revealing the future. The Holy Spirit guides us into the truth about the past, present and future and it is all revealed right in His word. Then notice:

Verses 14 - 15: He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. all things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

The work and ministry of the Holy Spirit, Verse 14 says, is to **glorify Christ**, not Himself or some person, but Christ and it is always to reveal the truth about Christ to us. When people and ministries today put more emphasis on the Holy Spirit than they do Christ, it is a misplaced emphasis. The Holy Spirit wants to glorify Christ and He wants us to as well.

Jesus says ‘**He will take what is mine and declare it to you** because **all things that the Father has are Christ’s as well**. Here again you see the perfect harmony of the Trinity of God working to reveal the truth about Christ.

Do you realize that Christ, as the Messiah, was alluded to in the Old Testament many many places and revealed in the New Testament of every aspect of His birth, life, betrayal, death and resurrection. Compare:

Isaiah 7: 14 to Matthew 1: 23

Isaiah 9: 1-2, 6 to Matthew 4: 15 – 16

Isaiah 53: 1 – 6 to John 12: 38, 1st Peter 2: 24 – 25

Jeremiah 9: 23 – 24 to 1 Corinthians 1: 31, 2nd Corinthians 10; 15-17

Hosea 11: 1 to Matthew 2: 15

Joel 2: 32 to Romans 10: 13

Micah 5: 2 to Matthew 2: 6

Jesus Christ is the theme of the whole Bible, from cover to cover, and the Holy Spirits ministry is to declare Him to us and to glorify Him in that declaration. Christ is best declared and glorified in the pages of the Bible that the Holy Spirit uses to mold us and shape us into the image of Christ

And if the Holy Spirit's purpose is to glorify Christ in the revelation of Him in Scripture, then shouldn't it be our purpose to glorify Christ in the proclamation of who He is?

And if the Holy Spirit's purpose is to glorify Christ through the written word, shouldn't we love this book and cherish its writings and believe what they say and follow what they say? That is the true evidence of a born again, Spirit indwelt, believer.

Christ is revealed in every book of both the Old and New Testament and it is as if Christ died to shed His blood so the pages of this book could be written by the Holy Spirit, with His own blood. This is the revelation of God's divine truth.

Close, gospel

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Introduction and Review:

John 8: 31 – 32, John 17: 17, 2nd Peter 1: 21
2nd Timothy 3: 16, Hebrews 1: 1 – 2
Job 10: 11, Job 26: 7, Job 37: 9 – 13
Matthew 5: 18, Psalm 119: 89, Psalm 138: 2

Verse 12:

Mark 9: 32, Luke 18: 31 – 34
1st Corinthians 1: 10 – 14, 1st Corinthians 3: 1 – 3
Hebrews 5: 12 – 13, 1st Peter 2: 1

Verse 13:

2nd Peter 1: 21, John 14: 26, John 15: 26

Verses 14 – 15:

Isaiah 7: 14 to Matthew 1: 23
Isaiah 9: 1 – 2, 6 to Matthew 4: 15 – 16
Isaiah 53: 1 – 6 to John 12: 38, 1st Peter 2: 24
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