

Experiencing the Holy Spirit as Our Divine Enablement

John 14: 15-21

Introduction

A. The Scripture clearly reveals the deep concern of the Lord Jesus for His Disciples and for all believers. Consider the truth: God is concerned for the true you—your heart.

1. Our circumstances, both past and present, may lead us to believe that no one really cares for us. Many of us would like to hear our name spoken in love – not in anger, or in ridicule, or for correction, or for instruction, or as a plea for help, but just in love, acceptance and affirmation. The Lord Jesus wants to speak your name in love.
2. Why do I begin this message as I have? There are four reasons.
 - a. God loves and cares for you in spite of what has or is happening to you.
 - b. He wants you to receive His loving care and to respond to Him in love and trust.
 - c. Your life and ministry flows out of your heart experience more than your head.
 - d. He wants you to know your provision is a Person: The Blessed Holy Spirit.

B. The significance of the Farewell Discourse.

1. The Disciples were aware of some impending and threatening event.
2. They were confused and apprehensive. The Lord Jesus had spoken of His death.
3. The enemy was powerfully at work. Luke 22:31, 53; John 13:27; 14:30
4. In a few hours they would all forsake Him. It would result in great shame and fear.
5. In this Discourse the Lord Jesus expressed His love and provision for them.

I. The Passion of the Lord Jesus for His Disciples and for All Believers. John 14:1-14

A. The Encouraging Word and Invitation for Trust. John 14:1-4.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me." V1

B. The Instruction for Life and Ministry. John 14:5-7.

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?" Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Vs 5,6

C. The Explanation of His Divine Sonship and Ministry. John 14:8-11.

"Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father." V9

D. The Promise of Success for Life and Ministry. John 14:12

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."

E. The Promise of a Cooperative Ministry. John 14:13,14

“And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”

II. The Provision of the Lord Jesus for His Disciples and All Believers. John 14:15-17

A. The Importance of Loving Obedience. V15

“If you love me, you will obey what I command.”

B. The Explanation of His Provision: the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Vs 16,17

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--the Spirit of truth. 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.”

III. The Promises of the Lord Jesus for His Disciples and All Believers. John 14:16-21

A. The Promise of the Holy Spirit in a Permanent Relationship. V16

“He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever ...”

B. The Promise of the Holy Spirit as an Indwelling Presence. V17

“The Spirit of truth ... you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”

C. The Promise of the Holy Spirit to Reveal and Glorify the Lord Jesus. V18

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

D. The Promise of the Holy Spirit to Bring the Life of the Lord Jesus. V19

“You will see me. Because I live, you also will live.”

E. The Promise of the Holy Spirit to Implement a Love-Bonding Relationship. V20

“On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.”

F. The Promise of the Holy Spirit to Develop the Love-Bonding Relationship. V21.

“Whoever has my commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves me. He who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love him and show myself to him.”

Conclusion: It is not enough to surrender to doctrine. We must surrender to the Holy Spirit and the work He desires to do in us and through us. Can we honestly say we have?

Victor Matthews

