

Sermon Notes for June 18, 2017

John 16:1-15: Be Prepared

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Jesus warns the disciples that things will get difficult.

It is advantageous for the disciples for Jesus to leave so that the Holy Spirit can come!

THE HOLY SPIRIT'... CONVICTION OF MEN

"... (1) He comes on purpose to convince men that they are so guilty that they are lost and ruined; to remind them of their enmity to the God of love. He does not come to make sinners comfortable in their sins, but to cause them to grieve over them. He comes to wound so that no human balm can heal; to kill so that no earthly power can make us live.

(2) This work is most necessary, because without it there is no leading men to receive the Gospel. We cannot make headway with certain people who profess faith very readily, but are convinced of nothing. But get near a real sinner, the man who mourns in his inmost soul that he is so, and you find one who will welcome the Saviour. To him the news of pardon will be as cold water to a thirsty soul.

(3) The Spirit comes to convince men of sin, because they never will be convinced of sin apart from His Divine advocacy. A natural conscience may show a man his faults, make him uneasy, and may bring about reformation; but it is only the Spirit of God that to the full extent convinces a man of sin so as to bring forth repentance, self-despair, and faith in Jesus.

(4) The Holy Spirit dwells upon one point in particular; 'They believe not on Me.' None see the sin of unbelief except by His light. For a man thinks, 'Well, if I have not believed in Christ, that is a pity, perhaps; but still, I was never a thief, or a liar, etc. Unbelief is a matter of little consequence; I can met that square at any time.' But the Holy Spirit makes a man see that not to believe in Christ is a crowning sin, since it makes God a liar. He who believes not on Christ has rejected God's mercy, and has done despite to the grandest display of God's love. In this he has dishonoured God on a very tender point: His only begotten Son..." (C.H. Spurgeon)

Application:

IT IS the CHIEF office of the Holy Spirit to glorify Christ. He does many things, but this is what he aims at in all of them, to glorify Christ. Brethren, what the Holy Ghost does must be right for us to imitate: therefore, let us endeavour to glorify Christ.

To what higher ends can we "devote ourselves, than to something to which God the Holy Ghost devotes himself? Be this, then, your emotional prayer, "Blessed Spirit, help me ever to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ!"