JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

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John 14:15-18

1. Over the next several weeks we are going to examine the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

2. As individuals and as a church we cannot be what God wants us to be or do what God wants us to do apart from the Holy Spirit.

3. Dr. Herbert Lockyer was right when he wrote, "It is because the Church has lost sight of the fact that the Holy Spirit is the Administrator of her affairs in this dispensation of grace that she is so devoid of spiritual power in a world of need."

4. The fact that Christians differ to some degree in matters related to the Holy Spirit should not prevent us from earnestly seeking to experience the full reality of the Holy Spirit's work in our own lives and in the life of our church.

5. Lockyer wrote, "All of us are able to know with absolute certainty the facts of His indwelling presence, life-giving energy and sanctifying power, even though our opinions as to the origin and theory of the Spirit's presence with the soul may differ. It is imperative to guard ourselves against uncharitable denunciation of fellow believers, whose explanation differs from our own."

6. Jesus promised His disciples another Helper.

- a. Paraclete: One called along side to help.
- b. Synonymous with the presence of Jesus. 18

See also Acts 16:7 where the Holy Spirit is referred to as "the Spirit of Jesus".

- 7. The Helper is the Holy Sprit.
 - a. A Person and not just a force.
 - b. A Divine Person: God the Holy Spirit.

c. A Divine Person who acts in unity with God the Father and God the Son. John 16:12-15

8. Much of what ails the church today can be traced to our misunderstanding of the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

a. We pay lip service to the Holy Spirit but not life-service.

b. We want His blessing on our agenda.

9. A Spirit-filled life will be characterized by spiritual power, boldness, and holiness.

10. Our first study will focus on the Holy Spirit in our Lord's life and labors.

I. The Spirit testified of Christ.

A. "In the scroll of the book it is written of Me." Hebrews 10:7

B. Jesus taught that the Old Testament clearly defined Him and His ministry.

1. On the Road to Emmaus. Luke 24:25-27.

And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

2. To a wider group of believers. Luke 24:44-49

Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then He opened their

minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 "You are witnesses of these things. **49** "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

C. Peter pointed out that the Old Testament writers were guided in what they wrote by the Holy Spirit and that they did not fully understand the full meaning of what they were being led to write. I Peter 1:10-12

"As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, 11 seeking to know what person or time the **Spirit of Christ** within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. 12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you **by the Holy Spirit** sent from heaven — things into which angels long to look."

D. The Holy Spirit was not only the Author of the Bible, but He is also its greatest expositor. John 14:25-26

"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."

II. Christ was born of the Spirit.

A. The angel Gabriel told Mary that the Holy Spirit would accomplish a miraculous work in her. Luke 1:34-35

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" 35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God.

- B. In Matthew 1:18 we read, "Mary...was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit."
- C. As Christians we have been born again through the activity of the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. He convicted us of sin.
 - 2. He convicted us of the need for righteousness.
 - 3. He convicted us of judgment.
 - (John 16:8-11)

III. Christ was anointed with the Spirit. Luke 3:21-22

"Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

A. Jesus was led by the Spirit. Luke 4:1

"Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness."

1. Jesus had a divinely appointed date with the Devil.

a. "Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil." Matthew 4:1

b. He went in obedience to the Holy Spirit and was therefore strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

c. The Devil tempted Jesus to act independently of God the Father and God the Holy Spirit in a bold attempt to destroy the unity of the Godhead. NOTE: His tactics have not changed. He is always trying to get us to focus on ourselves and to trust in ourselves rather than focusing on and trusting God. NOTE: Jesus' victory over temptation qualified Him to be our Savior. Hebrews 4:14-16

"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, **but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.** 16 Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2. Jesus personally defeated the Devil through the power of the Holy Spirit before He went to deliver others.

NOTE: In seeking the filling and anointing of the Holy Spirit remember that He will lead you into direct confrontation with the Devil.

- B. Jesus did all that He did in the power of the Holy Spirit. Luke 4:14 "And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit."
- C. Ministered and preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
 - 1. Luke 4:16-19

And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. 17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, 18 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, 19 TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

2. Acts 10:38

"You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him (in the person of the Holy Spirit)."

APPLICATION

1. We will continue our study of Jesus and the Holy Spirit next week.

- 2. Have you been born of the Spirit?
- 3. Are you filled with the Holy Spirit and with power?
- 4. Are you being led by the Spirit? Romans 8:14

"For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."

5. Like Jesus are you going about doing good and impacting the lives of others because God is with you in the person of the Holy Spirit?

6. Let our prayer be, "O Holy Spirit, come and take Your rightful place in our lives and in the life of Pacolet Hills Baptist Church!"