

COME HOLY SPIRIT: A SERMON SERIES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT #3

“How The Word of God becomes God’s Word to Us: The Holy Spirit and The Word of God”

Scripture Readings: I Corinthians 2:6-16; Ephesians 5:15-20,6:10-19; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Peter 1:16-21

The Nicene Creed: “We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified; who spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.”

“Without the Holy Spirit, Christian discipleship would be inconceivable, even impossible. There can be no life without the life-giver, no understanding without the Spirit of truth, no fellowship without the unity of the Spirit, no Christlikeness of character apart from His fruit, and no effective witness without His power. As a body without breath is a corpse, so the church without the Spirit is dead.” **John Stott**

*****God, The Holy Spirit, The 3rd Member of the Trinity, is able and willing to breathe new life into our souls and the Church, rekindle our dying and struggling faith, inflame our passion for God, and enliven us to be part of God’s mission in the world. The Holy Spirit has been, is and will continue to be present and active in the world and in human lives until the eternal purposes and promises of God are fulfilled.**

*****Jesus said, “The Spirit gives life...the words I have spoken to you are full of the Spirit and life.”
(John 6:63)**

*****Mark Twain said, “It is not those passages of Scripture I do not understand that bother me, but those that I do understand.”**

I. The Word of God, The Holy Spirit and The Mind of Christ (I Corinthians 2:6-16)

- A. The Word of God as a Message of God’s Wisdom (not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age) which is a mystery that has been revealed to the mature...to those who share faith in Jesus Christ...those who do not/cannot understand/accept the Word but consider it foolishness because they cannot understand/accept apart from the Holy Spirit.
- B. The Word of God has been revealed to humans by God through his Holy Spirit.
- C. The Holy Spirit searches all things, even the deep things/thoughts of God and our deepest things/thoughts (mind and spirit).
- D. The Word of God received is from the Holy Spirit of God (not the Spirit of the world).
- E. The Word of God is given so that we may understand what God has freely given us (the grace of God).
- F. The Word of God is not taught by human words but by words taught by the Holy Spirit (“Spirit taught words”) that explain spiritual realities.

G. The Person with The Holy Spirit makes judgments/discernments about all things by the Word of God...

Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him? (Isaiah 40:13) WE HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST, revealed in the Word of God by the Holy Spirit of God!

II. The Word of God, The Holy Spirit and Spiritual Warfare (Ephesians 5:15-20, 6:10-19)

A. Be very careful how you live...live wisely (vs. unwisely and foolishly) making the most of every opportunity to understand what the Lord's will is.

B. Be filled with the Holy Spirit (not with wine) and speak to one another with psalms, hymns and songs from the Holy Spirit, making music in your hearts always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

C. Be strong in the Lord's mighty power, putting on the full armor of God so you can stand against the devil's schemes knowing that our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the spiritual authorities, powers and forces...The Helmet of Salvation and The Sword of The Holy Spirit which is The Word of God.

III. The Word of God, The Holy Spirit, The Inspiration of Scripture and Christian Maturity (2 Timothy 3:15-17) also see Hebrews 4:12-13

A. The knowledge of the Word of God is essential to our spiritual infancy to our spiritual maturity.

B. The Word of God is able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ...useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, training in righteousness so that every servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good (God) work.

C. ALL Scripture is "God-breathed" (wind/spirit).

IV. The Word of God, The Holy Spirit and The Reliability of Scripture (2 Peter 1:16-21)

A. Christians do not follow a "cleverly devised story" ("mythos") made up by humans, but a story eye witnessed by those who saw and heard Jesus Christ.

B. The Word of God is "completely reliable" and we will "do well" to pay attention to it.

C. No Word of Scripture came about by the human writer's own interpretation or their human will/desire, but as God's Word carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Conclusions/Applications

Next Week: The Holy Spirit and The Christian Virtues (The Fruit of the Holy Spirit)

John 15:1-8; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Galatians 5:16-25, 6:7-10