

The Gospel According To John

The Work of the Holy Spirit

John 16:5-15

Holy Spirit Conviction (v. 5-11)

Continuing the work of Jesus

- Jesus' departure results in the coming of the promised Kingdom of God (the age of the Spirit). *Isa. 32:12-19, 44:1-5, Ezek. 11:17-20, 36:24-27, 37:1-14, Joel 2:28-32*
- This saving reign of God cannot be fully inaugurated until Jesus has died, risen from the dead, and been exalted to the Father's right hand.
- The Holy Spirit will come and continue the witness of Jesus *through the disciples* and in the hearts of men. He will convict men both by external means and directly through the heart gate.
- As Jesus did, He will make people aware of their guilt of turning their backs on the only Savior, their false claims to righteousness, and the judgment they deserve. Millions have been brought to happy submission to the Lord Jesus Christ by the power of the Spirit whom He sent.

The Spirit Convicts the world of:

(1) Sin

- A gracious work designed to cause men and women see their need.
- Not just sin in general, but the sin of unbelief and rebellion against Christ (v. 9).

(2) Righteousness

- Convicting the world that their righteousness is hopelessly inadequate. *Isa. 64:5, Matt. 5:20, Rom. 10:3, Phil. 3:8-9, Titus 3:5*
- Because Jesus will be gone to the Father, the Spirit will continue the work (v. 10).

(3) Judgment (v. 8-11)

- The world needs to know it is condemned already. *John 3:18*
- If Satan is already judged, his lesser servants will most certainly be judged (v. 11).

Holy Spirit Revelation (v. 12-15)

The Completion of the Revelation of Christ

- Knowledge of the kingdom before the Christ's death and resurrection was unbelievably fuzzy and lacking. This is not only a major theme in John, but is hit upon throughout the rest of the NT. *1 Peter 1:10, Hebrews 1:1-2*
- The apostles will be given all the truth by the Spirit. The article indicates a body of truth centering on Christ. *Eph. 2:20; 3:3-5*
- Those claiming additional truth are false teachers.
- "Things to come" could be far future or near future (i.e. illuminating the meaning of the cross and the events that follow the upper room).

Why We Don't Sing About The Holy Spirit

- The Spirit's job is to bring glory to Christ (John 15:26-27; 16:14).
- It seems that one of the primary ways He was to do this was by guiding the disciples in the establishment (preserving them and making them strong witnesses/martyrs) of the church and the New Covenant Scriptures.
- The Spirit's job in our lives today is to make us walk out Paul's words "To live is Christ, to die is gain."