

**“Who is Jesus?”: Comforter
John 14:25-31**

Introduction:

- He is still doing a work of comfort for the disciples because of their troubled spirits. Keep that in context. READ **vv.1-13**.
- What’s central to this context is what’s central to John’s gospel: Belief leading to eternal life (**John 20:30-31**)
- In a way it is all about comfort through saving belief, and looking at that belief from several different angles.
- Jesus is the Comforter by promising to send the Comforter, the Holy Spirit.

The Comfort of the Comforter (vv.25-26)

- A) Truth in Words (**v.25**)
- B) The Spirit of Truth (**v.26**)
 - a. Truth with Authority
 - b. Teacher of Truth
 - i. **John 16:7-15**, “7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”
 - ii. Do you trust Him? (**1 Cor. 2:12-16**)

- c. Reminder of Christ’s teachings (**Matt.28:18-20**, “18 And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’”)
 - i. Too much focus on “new” things regarding the Spirit
 - ii. The emphasis of the Spirit’s work is the teaching of Christ – we must trust this and know that it’s enough

The Comfort of the Peace-Giver (vv.27-31)

- A) Christ’s Peace (**v.27**)
 - a. Promised (left / given)
 - i. Farewell here (standard Hebrew address)
 - ii. Greeting after resurrection (**PNTC credit**) – **John 20:19-23**, “19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.’”
 - b. Contrary to the World
 - i. **Phil.4:7**, “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
 - ii. **Col.3:15**, “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.”
 - c. Comforting (distress & fear)
- B) Object of Peace (**v.28**)

- a. Christ – **Isaiah 9:6-7** (Messianic designation)
 - b. Pleasure in Christ
 - i. Their future (**John 14:1-3**)
 - ii. Christ’s “future” (return to original state – cannot mean he is less than God) – **John 17:5**, “*And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.*”
 - iii. Glory of God
- C) Foundation of Peace (**v.29**)
- a. The Word – Christ
 - b. Belief (**John 20:30-31**, “**30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; **31** but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”)
- D) Nature of Peace (**vv.30-31**)
- a. Overcoming
 - i. Use of evil agency (a little glimpse at theodicy)
 - ii. Authority (**Romans 8:15-17,37-39**)
 - b. Obedient
 - i. Christ’s perfect obedience
 - ii. Satan’s role is all part of God’s plan for His redemption and to the praise of His glorious grace.
 - c. Loving
 - i. **Pillar New Testament Commentary** – “*The love relationships within the Trinity (to use a term that developed later) are logically prior to the love of God for the world. Ironically, the very rebellion and sinful self-centredness that damns the world, that makes the world the world, is overthrown by the obedience and self-sacrificing love of the Son, who thereby not only displays what a proper relation to God consists in, but is vindicated and wins release and redemption for those the Father has given to him. The world itself will learn this—either when men and women discover the truth and cease to belong to the world, or at the time when ‘every knee [shall] bow...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father’ (Phil. 2:10–11). These truths, cherished by every*

Christian, constitute the most profound evangelistic appeal.”

- ii. Put on display **for the world to see**
- d. Moving
 - i. A sense that Christ’s peace will rule in the believer with and without seclusion and reflection (we need regular solitude, but there’s a point when it’s resolved that Christ is Christ in silence and action – is there something you’re waiting on and He is saying, “I am the same. My peace I give you. GO!”)
 - ii. The Spirit will remind you of this too

Conclusion

- A) **All of this occurred in the upper room.** The disciples were about to face the most difficult time of their lives. These words are all designed for their comfort. Belief that Jesus is the Christ is the only source of real comfort and all that we’ve looked at these past two weeks magnifies that belief.
- B) **Where does the 21st Century Christian fit in here?** Well, what was Christ’s first belief point of comfort? His return. We have the record of His resurrection and all the more reason to hope. But how do we live? Take comfort! Don’t be dismayed by the world’s situation. Pray then move! Don’t huddle and don’t escape. Live out your comfort. Live like you believe He will return. Don’t be reckless, but do be risky, especially for the sake of the gospel! All the while, make certain you are one of His own by living like you are. The Holy Spirit is then yours by promise. Be comforted by the Great Comforter!
- C) PRAYER: **John 14:14** – Comfort with Truth & Peace
- D) MOVE: **Romans 5:1-5**, “*5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*”