



The Paraclete
29th in the “Life in his Name” Series
John 14:15-31, p. 901
April 28, 2019
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God explains our covenant relationship with God and the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The Text: John 14:15-31

1) The Christian relates to God through a “covenant,” which the entire Bible is needed to explain (v. 15).

a) *“Covenant” is the biblical term used to explain the relationship between God and his people, the church.*

b) *Covenant always involves a past foundation, expectations and stipulations, and future promises.*

Exodus 19:3-6: ³ ...The Lord called to [Moses] out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ⁴ ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶ and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

c) *Key in God’s Covenant: God’s commands always come in response to a relationship with God.*

The entire Bible develops a singular Covenant of Grace that extends through all the covenants, from the First Adam to the Second Adam, Jesus Christ.

2) Jesus gives us an introduction to “Another Paraclete,” the ministry of the Holy Spirit (vv. 16-31).

a) *The Paraclete comes after the departure of Christ and reinforces the ministry of Christ (vv. 25-26).*

b) *The Paraclete has a special relationship to Christians (vv. 17b-20, 27).*

c) *The Paraclete has a unique ministry in the world (vv. 17a, 28-31; cf. 16:8).*

d) *The Paraclete is the fullest expression of the ministry of God in the world (vv. 16, 21-24).*

“Paraclete” refers to the ministerial office of the Trinitarian God in the world, occupied by both the Son of God and the Spirit of God.

Response

The Christian life is lived through the New Covenant and in the Holy Spirit.

Sunday Text Questions for John 14:15-31

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- 1) Starter Question: How would you explain the Holy Spirit to a new believer or a non-Christian?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) According to v. 15, how is our obedience a reflection of our love for God?
- 4) The Greek word “Paraclete” in v. 16 is often translated as “Comforter” (KJV), “Advocate” (NRSV, NIV), “Counselor” (HCS), or “Helper” (NASB, ESV). How does the Holy Spirit perform all these duties in the life of the Christian?
- 5) If you were translating this text in John, would you leave the word “Paraclete” in its transliterated form (simply using English letters for Greek ones), or would you force yourself to pick one of the several possible meanings above? Please explain.
- 6) How does the end of v. 17 explain how Jesus can depart and ascend to the Father and yet say elsewhere that he will never leave nor forsake us (cf. Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5)?
- 7) What is v. 20 describing, and in what way does the indwelling Spirit of God unite us to God and allow us to participate in the fellowship of the Trinitarian God?
- 8) Based upon v. 26, how does Holy Spirit “teach you all things” and help you remember “all that [Jesus] said,” and what does that look like in experience?
- 9) Based upon v. 27, how does the Holy Spirit administer the peace of Christ to us, and how have you experienced that peace?
- 10) Concluding summary: What does this text teach us about *faith* (doctrine), *hope* (desire), and/or *love* (duty)?

Further study this week: Ezekiel 36 on the promise of the Holy Spirit (Mon); Acts 1 on the preparation for the Holy Spirit (Tues); Acts 2 and the arrival of the Holy Spirit (Wed); Ephesians 1 on the role of the Holy Spirit in salvation (Thurs); Romans 8 on life in the Holy Spirit (Fri).