

That night, Jesus betrayed, the disciples were afraid, they knew something was coming, didn't know what, Jesus talks of **going away**. They're sorrowful, troubled, worried, scared, uncertain future like you; but Jesus comforts with promise, work of the Holy Spirit.

Preparing the disciples, you for Pentecost to come comfort for life in the church after His ascension. For you need help. Lots of help. He sends the Helper to comfort you, work upon you. More on comfort in a moment, but you need to understand this **Helper** title of the Holy Spirit, so to understand more what the Holy does.

Jesus says Paraclete in Greek, hard to translate, often **Helper** or **Comforter**. It doesn't mean "help" in the sense of someone who gives some assistance. It's more like a helper who saves you from drowning, or drags you out of a burning building. Help of someone who's a life-saver. Sometimes Paraclete translated as **advocate**, like an attorney who defense your life. Understand **Helper** in this sense. For the kind of help we're talking about isn't just helping hands when needed, it's like help of a doctor holding your beating heart in surgery.

Jesus even says **it is to your advantage I go away; if I depart I will send the Spirit of truth to you**. His first comfort, **convicts the world of unbelief**. It's easy to point out the unbelief, lies of this world. All the gender stuff, the privileged colleges students setting up tents on campuses through our country espousing a godless Marxist ideology, which is idolatry of man. Evil all around while they call it good, as they mock God's gift of the body of male and female God, murder child He creates in the name of health care, mock His gift of marriage, family, and on and on. But it's not just them.

The Holy Spirit **convicts** you, which brings comfort to bear in your mess of life. Comfort to work, give faith, belief in you. Unbelief causes your despair, causes your fear. Repent; for you know the truth, He gives truth to save your life. That you have not simply done a few things wrong -you are not deep down a good person who makes mistakes but rather you wretched. A Helper that as you do not feared loved and trusted in God above all things and love your neighbors as you should and you keep looking to yourself and worldly pleasures and false things to satisfy. The Help, work in you by Word and Sacrament to draw you to Christ and be saved and live holy. Repent and believe. This is comfort the Holy Spirit works in you.

The next comfort, the Holy Spirit **convicts of righteousness**. Righteousness of Christ, yours. And this causes you to sing. So sing a new song to the Lamb who was slain for all of your sins who lives. If you want relief from the disappointments and pain of this broken world; if you want courage to face death, freedom from yourself and your sin, He pours out the righteous of Christ to you. You are made His.

The third thing Jesus mentions: the Holy Spirit **convicts the world of judgment**. Satan cannot have you. Judgment for you, not a terror but your answered prayer. The Holy Spirit in judgment, delivers you the peace of Jesus. There is no one to condemn you. Judgment of your sin and wrath has been spent on Jesus, you have His peace. Everything that is His, declared now to be Adams and Eves and all those who believe, which is to say, all things in the Kingdom are yours.

Note this last major point as all these things come together, what Jesus tells us. How many Christians, churches get wrong when any ever talks about 'feeling' the Holy Spirit. Nowhere in the Bible does anyone ever 'feel' the Holy Spirit. Not even at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit only, always, exclusively works in means; the Words of Christ, what Christ declares in the Sacraments of Christ. God is not an enthusiast, a mystical figure, but a God that works in concrete means so you can be certain and sure. So many people misunderstand the Holy Spirit; turn Him into a kind of alternative god of personal glory and empowerment, again. believe He works in feelings, emotions; treat Him as if he's like "the force" in Star Wars.

But what does Jesus actually say? He works in words: **convict of believe - works faith in you. He will tell, guide you into truth, speak with authority of Christ, you hear, He speaks, He takes what is mine, declares it to you...(again) declares to you.**

The Holy Spirit is about teaching, preaching, declaring, hearing, doctrine/truth, speaking. The Holy Spirit works in Words, the Scriptures, bring people, you to faith, life when the Holy Spirit filled Words over baptismal waters breathed new life in you. And it does stop there, but continually working in words, teaching, declaring, preaching the Words of Christ into you to keep you alive, keep you in this Kingdom.

What comforting, enduring Helper. This is most certainly to your advantage, all the Holy Spirit does by His word, delivered to you, continually working in you in baptismal waters. For you are weak, get sorrowful, troubled, worried, anxious, uncertain future. You are subject to powerful forces you can't control. Jesus doesn't leave us to work things out on our own or give some help along the way. No. He sends a Helper, God the Holy Spirit to work faith in you, to survive, to make it through the day, to help you from drowning and drag you from this burning world, always pointing you always to Christ, His works, the Scriptures, to the Church to dispense the gifts, the Kingdom here. We confess, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him: but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctifies (holy) keeps me in the true faith. **When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth.** Oh what comfort, help is yours.