

In This World (2)

What in this World Does the Spirit do?

(Jn.14: 16,17)

Introduction: There are many challenges facing Christians in this world today. But as hard as it can be to live the Christian life in this world, we have been given a helper to enable our success.

As the time drew near for Jesus to finish the work which He came to do. He spent His last hours of His earthly ministry with His disciples in an upper room, telling them and us the most transforming truth any believer can ever get a hold of. *Which is the truth about the Holy Spirit.* Jesus had a great deal to say about the Holy Spirit in His Upper Room message, because apart from the help of the Holy Spirit of God, we cannot live the Christian life in this world as God would have us live it. We must know who the Holy Spirit is, what He does, and how He does it. *So, let's listen in as Jesus teaches us these three things.*

I. The promise of the Holy Spirit: (v.16,17)

(Notice three key things Jesus says here)

1. **“I will pray the Father”** - *(The Son will request of the Father...)*
2. **“and He will give you”** ... *(the Father will comply with the Son's request)*
3. **“another Helper to abide with you forever”** *(The Son requested, and the Father responds by sending Holy Spirit) who would abide forever.*

One of the themes that runs through the gospels is, Jesus promise to give His followers power from on high. *(Luke 24:49)* That power would come in...

A. The person of the Holy Spirit – (John 7:37-39)

(Now, when Jesus speaks of the Holy Spirit...)

1. The Holy Spirit is not merely the divine influence of God – *He is God in us.*
2. The Holy Spirit is not an “it” – *Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as “He” Because He is the person of the Holy Spirit... (Rom.8:27; 1 Cor.2:11; Jn.13:16; 1 Cor.12:11; Rom.15:30; Heb.10:29; Ac. 5:3; Ac.7:5; Jn.14:26; 16:13; Jn.15:26; 16:7-8; Rom.8:26)*

Jesus is introducing to His disciples the Holy Spirit's personal presence, who will not only be with, but within the believer. Jesus also taught about...

B. The power of the Holy Spirit – Jesus explains how this power will work – (Jn.14:15-17; vv.25-26; vv.26-27; 16:5-11; vv. 12-15 –

Tragically a lot of Christians have missed the fullness of this truth that the power of the Holy Spirit is abiding and working in them. And so, they are still asking, seeking and depending on Jesus to do the very things He sent us the Holy Spirit to do!

Now yes, the Holy Spirit is called *“the Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God” in scripture, but nevertheless, He is the Holy Spirit who is at work in us today! (Heb. 1:3)*

II. The position of the Holy Spirit: (v. 17)

- A. *In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit would come upon men & women to empower them to accomplish God's work– (Gen.41:38; Ex. 31:2; book of Judges; King*

Saul, David and Solomon, the prophets had the spirit of God upon them to prophesy God's Word to man.

However, because the spirit only came “upon them,” He could be removed from a person. (Sampson, King Saul, David (Judges, 1 Sam.16:14; 18:12) and *(Ps 51:11)*)

- B. But in the New Testament, Jesus said, the Spirit's ministry would be much different.

1. *Jesus refers to this new relationship with the Holy Spirit as... “In you”*
2. Jesus stated the Holy Spirit was going to join Himself to us and takes up residence inside of every believer. *(Rom 8:5-10; 1 Cor 3:16)*
 - a. *The purpose of this indwelling – so we can live the Christian life as the new creatures we are, through the power of the Holy spirit. (2 Cor. 5:17; Rom. 8:9; Gal. 5:16-18) The purpose of the Holy Spirit in us, is to guide or direct us to live out the Christian life in this world, as we surrender control of our new lives to Him daily. (something impossible to do in the flesh!)*
 - b. **The purpose of this indwelling – (v.18)** *Fulfills Jesus promise “I will not leave you orphans”*

The new relationship with the Holy Spirit because of His position *“In us”* also has many implications for us as we try to live the Christian life in this world...

III. The production of the Holy Spirit: (v.18)

Jesus teachings on the Holy Spirit give especially strong emphasis on how the Holy spirit initiates the Christian life in us.

- A. **The Holy Spirit indwells the believer** – *This is the one thing that makes the Spirits work so efficient is that it is done internally.*

- B. **The Holy Spirit initiates change in the believer** *The Holy Spirit begins to do the work of regeneration – which is a miraculous transformation & implantation of Spiritual fruit and energy. (Titus 3:5-6; Js. 1:18; Gal. 5:22-23; Eph. 5:18-20; Col. 3:16)*

- C. **The Holy Spirit instructs the believer** – *The Holy Spirit brings to mind the words that Christ had already said. (14:26) The Holy Spirit will direct you into truths of scripture.*

- D. **The Holy Spirit illuminates the believer** – *Christians have the ability to read, understand, and believe the Bible because God made us new creatures. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God illuminates our minds (gives light or enlightens) (1 Cor.2:1-12)*

- E. **The Holy Spirit empowers the believer** – (Jn.14:12) this statement probably blew the disciples away – Yet 40 days later when the promised Holy spirit came upon them, Peter preached & 3,000 believed!

The secret to the disciple's success – was not their own strength & abilities (Ac.1:4-5,8) it was the person and power of the spirit in them.