

LOVED BY THE HELPER

John 16:4b-15

Tags

The Gospel of John, Jesus, the beginning, sent, sorrow, heart, truth, advantage, go away, the Helper, convict the world, sin, righteousness, judgment, believe, Father, ruler of this world, judged, Spirit, Spirit of truth, guide, speak, authority, hears, declare, things to come, glorify, mine

Introduction

Jesus has been with the disciples for three years. They have learned and seen so much, but there was still more to learn that they were not ready for just yet. Jesus would soon finish the work of salvation, but the disciples would need help to understand what it meant and how it would transform people. Surely the disciples were stunned to hear Jesus say, "It is to your advantage that I go away." How could that be true?

The unimaginable reality is that if Jesus did not go away—God's wrath would remain, the disciples would not be cleansed and sanctified as the new temple where God dwells, the new covenant would not be inaugurated, and the new age of the Spirit would not begin. The disciples struggled to understand that they would be LOVED BY THE HELPER. Perhaps we struggle with this as well...

Outline

Jesus' departure gives you an unimaginable advantage as you experience his presence through the Holy Spirit who ministers to you (v. 7).

- The Spirit is another Helper (14:16)
- The Spirit enabled the apostles to remember (14:26)
- The Spirit enables our witness (15:26)
- The Spirit will convict of sin, righteousness, and judgment (16:8)
- The Spirit guides all the truth (16:13)

Conviction of sin is essential for salvation and it is personal (v. 9).

Jesus is the only way to measure righteousness (v. 10).

Judgment and Jesus go together (v. 11).

There is no such thing as "your truth," there is only truth and it is found in the scripture (vv. 13-15).

Application

Have you thanked God for his presence by the Holy Spirit?

Did you know that your sin is a personal offense to God and have you turned from it to experience the righteousness that comes by faith and removes your condemnation?

Are you looking for truth in the right places?

Questions

1. Why was it necessary for Jesus to go away from the disciples? How did his departure change the way we relate to him? (Isaiah 32:15; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Joel 2:28-32)
2. How would you define conviction? Why is conviction an act of kindness from God? (Romans 2:1-5)
3. What is sin?
4. What are some ways that the Holy Spirit guides us?
5. Describe the relationship between authority and truth. How does that relate to the concept of "your truth?"