

The Gospel of John

The Teaching Ministry of the Holy Spirit

John 14:24-26

INTRODUCTION:

This morning we are continuing in the Gospel of John. Open your Bible, if you will, to the 14th chapter of John.

Starting in chapter 14 and going through chapter 17, Jesus has made several promises to His disciples while in the upper room and He is going to make several more.

- The promise of a mansion or room in His Father's eternal house in heaven.
- The promise that the Lord will come and take His own to be with Him in the place that He's prepared for them.
- The promise that all of heaven's resources are available if we ask according to His will and in His name.
- The promise that the presence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit will dwell within us for eternity.
- The promise that the eternal life He gives us is Himself.

I want to draw you now to verses 24-26 where there is yet another amazing promise.

The teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Stand and Read Scripture

John 14:24-26 (NASB)

²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me.

²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. ²⁶ But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

Prayer

BODY:

I. THE DECEPTION OF WORLDLY KNOWLEDGE.

John 14:24a (NASB)

²⁴ He who does not love Me does not keep My words;...

Jesus came to "seek and save those who were lost" by teaching us the truth from God. Many will hear His words and may even claim to believe. But we know that there will be many "believers" who will not be true followers of Christ. How will we know them? They will not love Christ and they will not obey His commandments.

There will also be those who will refuse to hear the truth of God. Where are we if we don't know the truth? We're trapped in Satan's kingdom. Because the only way out of Satan's kingdom is to know the truth.

Even the Jewish leaders in Jesus' day, the Pharisees and Sadducees, fell into the trap of worldly knowledge. Judaism was full of lies. They were part of the kingdom of darkness. John 8 makes that clear.

John 8:41-47 (NASB)

⁴¹ You are doing the deeds of your father." They said to Him, "We were not born of fornication; we have one Father: God." ⁴² Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would **love** Me, for I proceeded forth and have come from God, for I have not even come on My own initiative, but He sent Me. ⁴³ Why do you not understand what I am saying? *It is* because you cannot hear My word. ⁴⁴ You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me. ⁴⁶ Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me? ⁴⁷ He who is of God hears the words of God; for this reason you do not hear *them*, because you are not of God."

Can you imagine how hard it would have been for the Jews to accept what Jesus had just taught them. That they are of their father **the devil**? They were supposed to be God's chosen people! They were supposed to be the leaders of the religious world!

The whole world lies in the lap of the evil one and is deceived. They do not know the truth. They cannot hear the truth with comprehension and understanding.

What man has ever arrived at the truth on their own apart from the Bible? What man has ever discovered on their own who created them? What man on his own has proven that we are eternal beings? What man has derived on his own why Jesus died on the cross? What man has determined on his own that his creator resides outside of this world and is preparing an eternal place for those who love and serve Him?

Take the wisest, the most elite, the most brilliant, or the finest of minds, even collectively throughout history, and they cannot find the truth. Why? They're dead in trespasses and sins, their minds are darkened, their souls are black with the darkness of the kingdom of darkness. They cannot find the truth.

1 Corinthians 2:11-14 (NASB)

¹¹ For who among men knows the *thoughts* of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the *thoughts* of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, ¹³ which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual *words*.

¹⁴ But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

Now, I'm not saying they can't know the truth about mathematics, or the truth about science, or the truth about mechanics, or something like that; but they can't know the truth about the spiritual realm.

1 Timothy 2:4 (NASB)

⁴ (God) desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

The only way you can come to the knowledge of the truth is to be saved. You have to be delivered out of the kingdom of ignorance and darkness and blackness and death. That comes through the cross of Christ, doesn't it?

What do the scriptures say? You shall know the truth and the truth shall what? **(Pause)**
Set you free! Free from worldly deception and free from the kingdom of darkness.

II. THE GIFT OF TRUTH.

John 14:24b-25 (NASB)

...and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's who sent Me. ²⁵ "These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you.

In a world of lies where falsehood abounds and the whole world lies under the deception of the evil one, God, through His Son, gave us the greatest gift that has ever been given to the world. **That gift is the gift of truth!** The truth about Himself, the truth about us, the truth about time and eternity, the truth about life and death, the truth about salvation, the truth about judgment, the truth about heaven and hell.

Jesus told the Jewish leaders how He knew the truth of God. He was teaching in the temple and the Jews were astounded how He knew so much yet had no formal education. Jesus makes a very interesting statement.

John 7:16-18 (NASB)

¹⁶ So Jesus answered them and said, "My teaching is not Mine, but His who sent Me. ¹⁷ If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or *whether* I speak from Myself. ¹⁸ He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

He sought His Father's glory. The God of Truth has spoken through His Son who is the truth and is now leaving. He will send the Spirit of truth who will inspire the biblical writers to write the truth, which will be contained in the Word of God and handed to the church. The Bible will become our source for spiritual truth.

III. THE DIVINE REVEALER OF TRUTH.

A. Teaching the Apostles.

John 14:26 (NASB)

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you.

I don't know about you, but I can barely remember what somebody said to me yesterday, right? How many of you remember what I said to you last Sunday? Do you think you could write down everything I have preached from the Gospel of John? If four of you were to write it down would you all agree with each other? How complete would it be?

How in the world can these apostles and those associated with them write the four gospels, let alone the Old and New Testaments, with every detail and every single word correct? So correctly that you can take the four gospels and blend them together. We just studied the "Harmony of the Gospels" a couple of years ago. How could they ever do that? How could they ever recall all of that?

It is more impossible because they still did not understand.

John 12:16 (NASB)

16 These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.

John 13:19 (NASB)

19 From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He*.

Here they are in the upper room with Jesus just one day before His execution and they still did not understand. They still did not understand even the significance of Jesus' death on the cross. They were ignorant, virtually to the end. They would never be able to write the New Testament if they were left to **their** memories. They were just like the Old Testament writers. They were led along by the Holy Spirit. Every word was God-breathed. So what the disciples are promised is a promise of inspiration.

Our God is able to send forth His Holy Spirit into one of His saints and cause him to write His very words. After all, He can make a donkey speak and rebuke the madness of a prophet. If He can put words in the mouth of a donkey, should He not be able to put words in the mouth of an apostle?

Of course He can!

God even used the mouth of Moses to lead His people out of the hands of the Egyptians. Moses tried to talk God out of it.

"Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

And I like how God responded back to him.

"Who has made man's mouth? Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say."

This is how it works! I will be with your mouth. Not just your mind, but also your mouth.

Everywhere you go in the Bible there is this uniformity. The scripture is penned over a period of thousands of years. Whoever holds the pen. It might be a shepherd. It might be a king. It might be a farmer. It might be a prophet. It might be a scribe. It might be a fisherman. It might be a priest. It might be a tax collector. These writers are isolated from each other but you keep getting the same message.

Jesus told his eleven disciples “**He will teach you all things.**” He knew that there were many things that He had taught them that they did not understand. You will begin to understand some of it after the resurrection. You will begin to understand more during the 40 days that I spend with you following the resurrection. But when it comes to knowing all things that I have desired to reveal to you, that necessitates the coming of the Holy Spirit.

This verse is primarily a promise that the Holy Spirit will enable the apostles and their associates to write the New Testament and begin their ministry. Okay? But, I want you to hear another thing He will tell them later in chapter 16.

John 16:12-13 (NASB)

12 “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. **13** But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

That truly requires inspiration. They are even going to write things that the Holy Spirit will disclose to them because they could not handle some of the words of God at this time. That is what this promise is all about.

B. Teaching the Believer.

So, although the promise was primarily to the disciples, it is also a promise to us as well.

ILLUSTRATION:

Hold up an empty glass and ask “How can I get the air out of this glass?”

You might suck it out with a pump but that would create a vacuum and shatter the glass. After numerous suggestions pick up a pitcher of water, and fill the glass. There! All of the air is now removed. We cannot be a true believer by trying to remove sin by ourselves. We must be filled with the Holy Spirit.

We receive the Spirit of God when we know the truth, love God, and obey His commands.

You may ask, “How in the world can we know the truth?” As a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, you are the temple of the Holy Spirit. **Amen?** We talked about that last Sunday. He dwells in you. Your body is the temple of the Spirit of God (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit). You have a resident **truth** teacher. **This is a gift beyond all gifts!**

How important is it that God lives within us? Listen to what Paul wrote to the Romans through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:9 (NASB)

⁹ However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But **if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.**

So it is this simple: If you do not have the Spirit of God dwelling within you then you are still lost in your sins! The Spirit within you is your mark as a Christian!

The Holy Spirit is doing exactly what Jesus did. He's another helper. Jesus taught His disciples and they, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, recorded His words in the Bible. So we are able to read **all** that Jesus had taught them. The Holy Spirit will then help us to understand the scripture. "**He will teach you all things.**" The Spirit's teaching ministry is to teach you the meaning of the Scripture. He is the interpreter of Scripture to the faithful student. **This is His ministry.**

CONCLUSION:

ILLUSTRATION:

"Before freezers and refrigerators, people used icehouses to preserve their food. Icehouses often were underground or had thick walls. There were no windows and they were sealed with a tight fitting door. In winter, when streams and lakes were frozen, large blocks of ice were cut, hauled to the icehouses and covered with sawdust. Often the ice would last well into the summer.

One man lost a valuable watch while working in an icehouse. He searched diligently for it, carefully raking through the sawdust, but didn't find it. His fellow workers also looked, but their efforts, too, proved futile. A small boy who heard about the fruitless search slipped into the icehouse during the noon hour and soon emerged with the watch.

Amazed, the men asked him how he found it. 'I closed the door,' the boy replied, 'lay down in the sawdust, and kept very still. Soon I heard the watch ticking.'"

Often, we do not hear God speak to us because we do not listen well enough.

Let me read two verses for you.

John 15:26 (NASB)

²⁶ "When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, *that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me,*

John 16:14 (NASB)

¹⁴ *He will glorify Me, (speaking of the Holy Spirit) for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you.*

Do you understand this sequence? The Father's truth is passed on to the Son, and then to the Spirit who testifies of the Son, and then to the apostles to be recorded in Scripture, and then to us. Then, the Spirit of God, Who lives within us, becomes the interpreter of the scripture for us. This is why we study Scripture.

He is Lord.