

"GRIEVING THE HOLY SPIRIT"

Eph. 4:30

Text wonderful revelation.

Meat of it is in one word "Grieved".

"Lupe" word for sorrow in New Testament.

John 16:6 - Jesus said to Disciples "But because I have said these things unto you (coming death and going away) lupe, sorrow hath filled your heart."

Luke 22:45 - Gethsemane - came back and saw his Disciples "sleeping for sorrow" - "to make sorrowful" to grieve.

Rich young ruler came to Jesus. Master said "your riches come between you and God. Get rid of them and come."

Written on his face - war in the heart - He lost the battle.

He went away sorrowful - grieved - sad. No wonder the Lord loved that young man. "The Lord looked upon him, loved him".

One of the finest Jewish young men of that day, but he lost the battle. He did not leave the Lord lightly. He left grieving, sorrowing.

"Simon Peter, do you love me?"

Grieve not the Holy Spirit.

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON.

What a revelation - shows that the Holy Spirit is someone - a person.

Can be grieved - hurt.

Holy Spirit is not a law or a force in motion. Not it but He.

Often people speak of the Holy Spirit as an "it".

Rom. 8:16 - The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.

V. 26 - The spirit itself maketh intercession for us.

What is wrong with referring to the Holy Spirit as an "it"?

He is a person, third person in Trinity.

Unthinkable, that we refer to Him as it.

The Spirit is someone - a person.

Paul did not use the word anger -- for anger breeds anger -- retaliation -- wrath -- there is a reaction in us.

(Grieve not) - Grief has in it a tenderness, a love.

One cannot be grieved by someone he does not love. That is why someone who loves lays himself open for hurt as wide as the sky.

That relationship exists between the Holy Spirit and us. It is personal, full of heart and tenderness.

There is a drugest in Heaven who can compound feelings -- bitterness -- sweetness -- grief. He can be hurt.

### II. ATTRIBUTES THAT WOULD CAUSE GRIEF

#### 1. Love

Speak of love of Father, son, and Spirit.

He broods over us - we are in his mind care, keeping, love all our lives.

When you were a child - he quickened you. He touched your heart, spoke to your conscience.

When a child he presented to you the blessed Jesus and you became conscious of sin.

Sin is not so much doing this or that -- it is our nature. We are just lost, imperfect sinners.

He quickens us so we become sensitive to right and wrong.

When quickened he shows us Jesus our Saviour on the cross. He will open our eyes and we see. Open our ears and we hear. Open our hands and we can receive the precious love of God.

2. Care

This would cause him to have grief.

He helps our infirmities. He is a comforter -- "The one called alongside" - "The paraclete".

The Holy Spirit looks down from Heaven and binds up our broken hearts. He is our ever present strength and refuge in our illnesses, infirmities and sicknesses. He is with us in our trials, discouragements. Present to encourage us.

He shares our prayers when they are unsayable. Cannot verbalize, not have vocabulary, language, ability. Have you ever been like that?

The agony of your heart, came before the Lord and feelings so deep, not find words. All you could do was weep -- just feel -- Holy Spirit makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

So you place your request, appeal to God. The Holy Spirit knows, he feels for us, when you are in agony, he is in agony, moved by our feelings, our infirmities -- cares - speaks for us.

3. Nearness

"He dwells in you". Rom. 8:11.

That is what happened to the Lord Jesus - evil men slew Him - other men buried him. But the Lord Jesus filled with the Holy Spirit from his birth and doubly baptized by the Spirit.

Baptized the Spirit prepared him for public ministry.

Died, buried, the Holy Spirit raised from the dead. Paul said same thing happens to us.

We are temple -- house in which He lives. This body has God in it and one does not bury God. Put a seal on the tomb -- put a guard to watch but the Holy Spirit raised the body of Jesus - and He will raise us.

2 Cor. 5 - We have a house not made with hands; eternal in the Heavens.

Paul is talking out this house - renewed - raised.

4. Sealed

Day of Redemption. Rev. 7:2. Signet ring. King wore his seal on that ring.

Soft wax and the king's seal on a document.

Matters of property - Jeremiah bought back the inheritance of his fathers, in Anathoth, he sealed it in two copies in two ways.

One copy where everyone could read it with the seal down at the bottom like a

document of state. The other copy he placed in archives for future generations.

The Holy Spirit seals publicly and openly where all can see, one cannot hide  
that seal.

If you are a child of God it is very apparent. You cannot hide it.

There is a worldliness and unspirituality about you that is apparent.

If you are sealed by the Holy Spirit of God you cannot hide that. — A Boy  
can bring knif to his old mother & father.

You are different! You have seal of God upon you - a secret seal is in the  
archives of Heaven. It has your name upon it. That is what the Holy Spirit of  
God does for you.

How do you know this? Not a counterfeit?

It is publicly -- cannot be hid - sealed until the Day of Redemption. We are his  
property.

Cattle - brand - trademark.

Bible says you are sealed until Lord comes - saints are going to make it in.  
Names are written in Heaven.

Sealed signify three things.

- ✓ 1. Possession, ownership.
- ✓ 2. Protection, guarantee.
- ✓ 3. Proof authenticity, certified.

" Oh to grace how great a debtor. Here's my heart. Oh, take and seal it.

Seal it for Thy courts above. !"

### III. WHO CAN GRIEVE THE SPIRIT?

He loves us, cares, helps encourage, seals, guardian, and guide.

#### 1. Backslidden Christian

He does not pray anymore. Leaves the Bible on the shelf. His witness is put under a bushel. No joy in his soul. No gladness in his religion. Bored by going to church. Likes to be out with crowd in the world. The worldly Christian grieves the Holy Spirit.

Have you been saved? I will tell you how you can know!

Whenever a child of God is out there in the world he is one of the most miserable creatures alive. He is totally unhappy. He may present the finest picture of joy, gladness, and happiness as he drinks, curses, desecrates the Lord's Day, and uses his money on worldly purposes.

One might think - is not he just like one of them?

But the child of God, when he starts living in the world it becomes obvious  
that the peace and joy from his life is gone.

An unsaved man will like all the world has to offer, but the Christian will not.

The answer - the child of God will come back home. He may be a prodigal in the  
hog pen - but the day will come when he sits on top of the rail fence watching the  
hogs eat and then the tears will start flowing down his face.

I had people recount to me how it was in the days when they were converted.  
Then cry out "I want to come back. I want to come back." They feel in their souls  
they have grieved the Holy Spirit.

When the child of God finds no understanding in the Bible, no enlightenment,  
no answer to prayer, Heaven has turned to brass, services of the church are wearinesses  
- that grieves the Holy Spirit.

## 2. A Dead Church

When Prayer Meeting dwindles away. When no one is saved. There is no  
spiritual life - no tears in the labor of the church.

Please say - why are you trying to enlarge the Sunday School - why do you try to  
reach other people, is not the church large enough?

As long as there is one lost soul anywhere in this world we must still be on our knees asking God for help - still praying - the task is never finished. There are still families and children outside the reach of God's Word.

Church must be full of love - intercession - the Spirit of Christ.

3. Unrepentant Sinner

You grieve the Spirit when you turn down the voice of the Lord and say:

"No, I will not take the Lord. I will not receive Him."

When you say no, to the Pastor's appeal, to the invitation, you grieve the Spirit of God.

*Boat drifting towards tall - You call - They turn away your pleading from shore.*

This is the unpardonable sin -- you can say no to God - say no to Jesus and everything will still be open to you. But when you say no to the working of the Spirit - there comes a time when it is no forever!

He does not say "come" anymore - no other appeal. You are dead - lost and die forever - never going to be saved.

I cannot understand all of this but God said "My Spirit shall not always strive with man."

God gave them 120 years in Noah's Day and then destroyed them off the face of the earth.

| There is a time, I know not when,  
A place I know not where,  
That marks the destiny of men  
To glory or despair.

| There is a line by us unseen  
That crosses every path,  
The hidden boundary between  
God's mercy and God's wrath.

That is why the Bible always says, the appeal of the Spirit is today.

Heb. 3:15 - "Today if you will hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

2 Cor. 6:2 - "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."

~ It is always now.

— There is no tomorrow in the Spirit of God - it is now!

Come now--trust now - believe now - respond now. Open your heart to God now.

Receive Jesus as Saviour now.

Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, make him glad by giving your heart to  
the Lord.