

of the work of the Spirit. Back in the Old Testament he seems to have stirred and to move, but he does not seem to abide. When Jesus Christ was crucified on Calvary he made his way back to the Father saying, "peace has been made in the death of the son". Therefore, when the disciples had waited after continuous prayer together, suddenly with the rushing sound of a mighty wind, the Holy Spirit came upon them.

The Holy Spirit is here today finding his abiding place in the hearts and lives of believers. Jesus spoke of him saying, "when he is come he will testify of me". In another place he said, "I will bear witness of him". (Ezekiel) in the 47th chapter, first verse, describes the sanctuary by saying there ran out a river by way of the door and passed the altar and river eastward. That would mean nothing to us, but the east meant everything to the Jew. He pitched his tent facing the east. Why? Because he was looking for the coming Messiah. It is a great illustration that this river flowing forth from the sanctuary and starting each, is like the Holy Spirit of God who always witnesses to Jesus. And when this river flowed east, it is said that (everything it touched

## SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS AND JUDGEMENT

John 16:8

Introduction: (Last words) are always interesting. We are now at the close of the ministry of Jesus and he speaks his last words to a few close disciples. The counsel of a father or the words of a mother are the charm of a little child, are always interesting. When we think of the last words of Jesus we are bound to remember, "I go to prepare a place for you". Many times we read these in the presence of friends and those who suffer, "and if I go I will come again". How many times we have found comfort ourselves when the day has been dreary and we, with the prophet have said, "how long Lord", and we think about his marvelous words.

In our text we have some of the last words of Jesus. I do not have to remind you that these have reference to the (Holy Spirit). We remember that the entire setting centers in Jesus telling them what the (Holy Spirit will do). (First) he says the Spirit will compensate for his absence. It was wonderful that they had Jesus present

with them. They could look upon him. They could speak with him, but he says, you will have the same joy when you come to realize the presence of the Spirit of God.

V.7 - *At the Truth - Reasoning to me to go - Bodily Presence draws their eyes, spirit draw their hearts.*

He said the (second) thing the Spirit would do would be to train his disciples. He will lead you into truth. There will be no excuse for you not understanding because the Spirit will lead you into truth. The Spirit will lead us today in our search for truth concerning the deeper things about the Bible, about Jesus, and about his will.

The (third) thing that Jesus said the Spirit would do would be to interpret himself to them. Just as Jesus had interpreted God to the disciples, so he said the Holy Spirit would come and interpret him unto them. Then if we would know Jesus Christ, we must open our hearts to the Spirit. We must yield absolutely to him. He will make his way plain. He will teach us the meaning of cross bearing. He will teach us what it is to live in the Spirit. If the Spirit is to possess our lives, if he is to interpret Jesus to us, and if we would seek to live as he would live, then we would know the mind of

Christ. There are many reasons why we should understand the work of the Spirit. We are living in the dispensation of the Spirit. When we think of the (two great mountain peaks), one being the coming of Christ, the other being the second coming of Christ, and how that in between we have Pentecost. Now we did not know the first nor do we know the second of these two mentioned, because the Bible does not tell us definitely when they will take place.

The work of the Spirit is in evidence in the Old Testament for he spoke through (Abraham). He was present in the testimony of (Isaiah). We see his symbol in the days of (Noah). The little dove was sent out and flew forth over the waste of waters and found no resting place and came back to Noah's outstretched hand. The window of the Ark was opened the second time and the little dove flew here and there and found an olive leaf and came back to rest upon Noah's hand. He opened the window of the Ark the third time and the dove found a resting place and came back no more forever. The Old Testament is full of types of prophecies which are fulfilled in the New Testament and this picture of Noah's dove is a splendid illustration

an aged man. So this speaks of the work of the Spirit in telling us what Jesus will do in behalf of our righteousness. He tells us that Jesus is there to perform. As an illustration during the Civil War, (Abraham Lincoln) had issued an order that no man was to go home on furlough during a certain time. But there was one man near Washington whose wife was dying, and wanted to come home and see her. He had been refused permission to go. Therefore, he went to the White House and he was refused permission to see the President. He met a boy on the grounds who asked him, "What is the matter". He explained to the boy that he wanted to see the president to arrange a furlough. "Very well," said the boy, "you follow me". "I am President Lincoln's boy and I will take you in". He led him to the steps to the President's room and they would not let him in for the President is busy. But the little boy would not be put off. As the door opened to let some important person in, he cried out, "Father, tell this man to let me come in". Abraham Lincoln dropped his pen, said to the officer, "let him in". The boy came in with his new-found friend and the soldier told his story. The President signed the order for his furlough. This is a perfect illustration. We

came into life. This also is an illustration of the Holy Spirit. He is the secret of power.

When we consider the intellectual or those of high social position, we would not criticize, but would say beyond the power of intellect, beyond the power which comes with social distinction, (beyond man's genius, is the power of the Holy Spirit.) When he possesses us, our lives are made wonderful. (One person may speak and it will put you to sleep. But another many speak and it is like a call to battle. One person may sing correctly, everything they sing seems to be perfect. But another person may sing with skill, and you are moved and it causes you to express pleasure. The one who sings with great quality and can interpret the most classical music in the world may do so in the spirit of man, but the other may sing in the power of the Holy Spirit. This makes a difference. Peter explained that these people were under the influence of the Spirit and that was the reason why they had great power. Often we hear people suggest that Pentecost might be repeated. But it is unnecessary to repeat it. Of course the experience can be had in proportion as we take Jesus into our lives. It is for

this reason that we ought to keep him exalted, in our thought, in our speech, and in life.

Let us note an analysis of our text.

## I. Sin

Now we direct this to the man who is not a Christian. The man who is fallen in sin or the woman whose life is unclean or the one who is a sceptical or who is dishonest. He will reprove or convict of sin. Now, he is not here to convince you that you are a drunkard. You know that. He is not here to convince you of the fact that you are dishonest. You know that. And he knows that. What is he here for. Here is here to convict you of sin. You are a drunkard because you have not put Jesus in his right place. You are dishonest because you have put him out of your possessions. You are impure because you have not believed in Jesus. And you are in doubt because you have not trusted him. And

Unbelief is one of the greatest sins in the world.

*Take them know of their abominations & force them to own up to it. Show that they acted against good reason. How their true interest, felt of sin. I. Their great original sin, not believing in X. II. Their great & damning sin - Unbelief. Demons do sinners. III. What is at bottom of their sin - the world - IV. The simplicity of sin.*

## II. Righteousness

10

He said, "I will go to the Father and you will see me no more," and it is stated in the Bible over and over

again, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die". Have you sinned? Remember, the wages of sin is death. So we think about our weaknesses and we think about Jesus able to save, and the Spirit convinces us of the need for righteousness. There is an Old Testament illustration "she hath received of the Lord in double for all her iniquities". That does not seem fair. He hath received of the Lord in double. I think the meaning is this: In the olden days if I had become indebted to you I would have written a note for you upon a piece of paper which was divided in the center. Then I would have torn the paper in two pieces. I, as the debtor, keeping one piece, you as the creditor keeping the other, and when the debt was paid you would give me back the other piece and I would take that and nail it to the door of my home double to show that all my debt had been paid, and this when we read the blotting out of the writing of ordinances that were against us and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross. That is the Old Testament illustration. Now when we come to the New Testament illustration we think of the letter Paul wrote to Philemon. He was writing in behalf of Onesimus. He made a plea that he receive this slave, not because he was an apostle, not because he was

are in sorrow because of sin and Jesus, the Son of God, will stand for us. *Convincers Men of Christ personal righteousness*

*John 2:1  
John 23:47  
Edis. 3:9*

III. Judgement

When we think of these three words, we think of the message of Paul who preached one time upon righteousness, temperance and judgement to come. We know that the prince of this world is judged. Jesus said that the adversary of this world is the devil. He offered to Christ the kingdom of the earth if he would bow down to him, but Jesus used the Spirit by saying, "it is written". There are two or three things we ought to remember. The devil only has power over you as you will give him. You say, "but I am a drunkard", but you yielded. You say, "I have sinned against my home". There was a struggle between purity and the impure. The devil has only as much power over you as you will give him. Now the Spirit comes to help you in this situation. You can escape if you will pray and use the Bible, the sword of the Spirit. As a little boy said that he would carry his New Testament with him everywhere after accepting Christ, and one day along the street he met a temptation, he took out of his pocket his New Testament and held it

*So - Norfolk - Dec. 7, 58 A.M.*

up in the face of his advisary and said, "Do you see that, it is the sword of the Spirit". Life is marked out for us, if we would follow the advice of Jesus here, we would have greater power for today's

living. By the judgment of the prince of this world. It appears that Christ is stronger than Satan & can disarm & dispose of him.

He came to make things right - power & dominion of the old years.

Reprove - By <sup>the</sup> word, & conscience.

Convince - Law term, speaks of the office of a judge summing up the evidence & settling a matter that has been canvassed in a court of true light.