

The Counselor of Truth – Brings Peace

May 20, 2018 – John 14:25-27

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”

While the Mother of four was holding her screaming infant who was hungry, her two year old was holding onto Mom's leg screaming for attention, when the young Mother's 8 year old son came into the house crying because he had fallen and skinned his knee, and the teenage daughter was on the couch screaming at the top of her lungs, *“The boys do not like me because of the pimples on my face”*.

Despite all the noise, and family chaos, the young Mother was still at peace. She knew:

- That her Lord God was with her always,
- that she was God's child
- that she was forgiven by the blood of Jesus
- and that heaven was her home.

The Young Mom was at peace because the Holy Spirit had created faith in her heart through the waters of Baptism and God the Holy Spirit continued to nurture and strengthen her faith through the years of hearing the Word of God in school and church and in personal and family Bible study.

As Jesus speaks these words of our sermon text, it is Holy Week. Jesus had ridden into Jerusalem on the colt, the foal of the donkey. It was Thursday of Holy Week.

The time was quickly approaching when Jesus would be in the Garden of Gethsemane praying with such great intensity that He shed drops of blood, and then was arrested, tortured and crucified for the sin of the World.

But before Jesus died for the sin of the World, He first instructed His disciples informing them that He would not leave them alone, but that He would send the Counselor - Παράκλητος - The Holy Spirit.

This special outpouring of the Holy Spirit occurred on Pentecost Day, when there were ***“God Fearing Jews from every nation”*** as listed in Acts 2.

Those God fearing Jews were:

Vs. 9 – Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,

Vs. 10 – Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome

Vs. 11 – (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs –

They were in Jerusalem to celebrate the Old Testament Festival call: The Feast of Weeks, which is also referred to by two other names – Feast of Harvest / Day of the First Fruits.

God had established in Leviticus 23 that the Children of Israel were to bring their First Fruits to the Lord, and this Feast of Harvest was 50 days after the 1st Sunday after Passover.

It is on this 50th day after the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the Dead, that God fulfilled the promise to send that special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This special outpouring of the Holy Spirit would Jump Start the New Testament Church with 3,000 being baptized in a single day.

On that special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would:

Vs. 26 - will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

Do you have the Bible Memorized? I do Not. But the more we study the Bible, the more the Holy Spirit has to work with, because the Holy Spirit Works through the Means of Grace – The Gospel in Word and Sacrament.

Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will remind the disciples and US of the Words of Jesus.

Perhaps you have had that moment when someone is speaking with you concerning the Word of God and suddenly you remember a portion of Scripture that helps clarify whatever Bible teaching you are discussing.

Where did the Bible passage come from? It was the Holy Spirit leading you in what to say.

Jesus also told His disciples and He tells us:

Vs. 27 – Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Just as the Young Mother in our introduction had peace despite the chaos that was happening around her, so also do we have peace knowing we are God's forgiven children regardless of what is happening in our world and our own lives.

We also know from the following passage that we will have trouble in our life and world as in: ***John 16:33 – Jesus says, I have told you these things so that in ME you may have PEACE. In this World you will have trouble. But Take Heart! I have overcome the World.***

Even Jesus' arrest, trial, torture, and crucifixion couldn't cancel the Peace that Jesus Brought, Peace between God and Mankind.

What a comfort, knowing that All the Tears and crying in the World, cannot take away the Peace of the Forgiveness of Sins which Jesus has won for us.

Regardless of what troubles we experience, we know that we have Heaven, where there is no more sorrow, tears or death, and we get out new glorified bodies, because of the Peace of the Forgiveness of sins which Jesus won for You and God the Holy Spirit, lives in you and has created faith in your Heart. AMEN