

Who is your Counselor?

June 4, 2017 – John 16:5-11

“Now I am going to Him Who sent Me, yet none of you asks Me, Where are You going? Because I have said these things, you are filled with grief. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. When He comes He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see Me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.”

So what is the name of your Counselor?

In **1 Samuel 28:1-25** King Saul went to seek a witch for his counselor. King Saul went to inquire of the witch of Endor to summon for him the dead spirit of the prophet Samuel. Witchcraft is of course condemned by God (Gal. 5:20). However, God did allow the witch of Endor to see something, and the way she described what she saw, King Saul assumed it was the Prophet Samuel. The message that King Saul received was that the army of Israel would be defeated and King Saul and all of his sons would be killed. (Jonathan, Abinadab & Malki-Shua) When the battle took place, it was just as had been revealed through the witch of Endor.

In **Genesis 25:22-23** - Rebekah, the wife of Isaac inquired of the Lord concerning the two children that were in her womb jostling about. (Esau & Jacob) The Lord responded to Rebekah. **“Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger.”**

Esau = Edomites, Jacob = Israelites.

Today in this text from the Gospel of John, we hear that Jesus tells His disciples that He will send a Counselor. After Jesus suffers and dies for the sin of the world, Jesus will be ascending to heaven and then one of the things He will do is send the Counselor, that is the Holy Spirit. (**Jn. 14:16; Jn. 14:26; Jn. 15:26**)

Vs. 7 – But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor - Παρακλητος - **will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.**

- Παρακλητος - = **Advocate, Lawyer, Attorney, Mediator, Comforter, Intercessor, Helper.**

What does the Lord Jesus tell us concerning this Counselor of Truth? (**Jn. 14:16; Jn. 14:26; Jn. 15:26**)

Vs. 8 – When He comes He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: - αμαρτιος – δικαιοσυνησ – Κρισεωσ - – Κρισεωσ - Can also mean - Punishment

Vs. 9 – in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me;

In God’s Word we learn what sin is, and God the Holy Spirit leads / enables us as believers to recognize our own sin after He brings us to faith in Jesus.

How deep is our sin? **Gen. 6:5 – “The Lord saw how great man’s wickedness on the earth had become and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.”**

How long does each human being have sin?

God tells us that also: **Psalm 51:5** – “Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.” Thus even newborn babies need a Savior because even if they have not done any outward sinful act, they still have the sinful nature passed on from their parents, all the way back to Adam and Eve.

And due to sin we are as Paul writes to the congregation in Ephesus. **Eph. 2:1** – “Dead in your transgressions and sins.”

To recognize our sin is important because then God the Holy Spirit leads us to recognize our need for a Savior. That Savior is of course Jesus. This leads us to the SECOND point that Jesus makes in this section of John chapter 16:

Vs. 10 – in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see Me no longer;

How are we made righteous?

We are made righteous From God as other passages from Scripture inform us.

Romans 1:17 – For in the Gospel, a Righteousness FROM God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith, from first to last, just as it is written, The righteous will live by faith.”

Romans 3:21-22 – But now a righteousness from God, apart from Law has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness FROM God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.”

I Peter 3:18 – For Christ Jesus died for sins, ONCE – FOR ALL – The Righteous for the Unrighteous – to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.”

The THIRD point that Jesus makes in this section of John is found in verse 11:

Vs. 11 – and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

Who is the prince of this World? = Satan, Satan was cast out of heaven, and he wanders about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour and drag down to hell.

The Judgment of God is Complete in Christ Jesus our Lord. Jesus is the Victor over sin, death and the devil.

Jesus rose from the dead, He ascended into Heaven, and He sits at the Right hand of the Father ruling all things with His powerful Word. And so WHO is Your Counselor? The Lord God Almighty, and in this particular text, Jesus points out that it is the third person of the Trinity – God the Holy Spirit.

He is there to give you advice and comfort in His Holy, Inspired, Infallible, Inerrant Word – The Holy Bible – and you can go and seek His advice, any time, day or night. AMEN