

ATTRIBUTES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

COMFORTS

Key Text: *John 14:15-27*

The Holy Spirit comforts us through His presence

The Greek word *Parakletos*. *Parakletos* means ‘summoned, called to one’s side’ or ‘called to one’s aid’.

In this passage *Parakletos* refers to the Holy Spirit who was destined to take the place of Jesus with the apostles, after He ascended to the Father. The Holy Spirit’s role was to lead the apostles to a deeper knowledge and understanding of the gospel truth, and to give them the divine strength needed to endure the trials and persecutions they may face.

John 14:17 – “...for he lives with you and will be in you.”

John 14:20 – “... you will realise that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.”

John 14:23 – “...If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

1 Corinthians 3:16 – “Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?”

Ephesians 1:13 – “... when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is our constant companion. He is someone that we can trust and depend on. He will never leave us; He will always walk with us.

The Holy Spirit comforts us through the truth

John 14:16-17 – And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you for ever – ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth.

John 14:26 – “*But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you.*”

As we read the scriptures with the aim of developing our knowledge of the Word, the Holy Spirit helps us understand what we are reading, He opens our eyes to see Biblical truths in new ways, He shows us the power of the words we are reading, He reveals how we can apply what we are reading to our own lives, He imprints the words of Jesus within us so we can remember them and use them in our lives and more.

Psalms 119:50 – *This is my comfort in my misery, That Your word has revived me.*

One of the ways He comforts us in times of hardship is through the revelation of the truths contained in His Word through the Holy Spirit. God's Word is so powerful and life changing. In times of misery, it provides comfort and has the ability to revive us, to lift us out of our slump.

The Holy Spirit comforts us through revelation

a) Prophecy

Prophecy refers to a direct word of God usually given to someone to pass on to someone else.

1 Corinthians 14:3 – But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them.

Prophecies cover a wide range of situations and issues, such as the prediction of future events, providing people with counsel, encouragement, confirmation, instruction, and possible correction when needed.

b) Inner Witness

Romans 2:15 – who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them.

We can identify a piece of knowledge as a revelation from the Holy Spirit due to the strength and conviction of it, something that resonates with us without any shadow of a doubt.

He may speak to us through a thought or an idea, or He may impress something upon our heart that requires action – to say something, to do something or to think something according to His will.

The Holy Spirit will never reveal something to us that does not line up with God's Word, He will never contradict the scriptures.

Romans 8:16 – The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Conclusion

John 14:27 – “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.”