“The Ministry of the Spirit of Truth for The Testimony of Christ”

**John 16:12-15** Sunday July 16, 2023 Pastor Timothy Atkins

## INTRODUCTION READ John 16:1-33

In this Upper Room discourse given to us here in the Gospel of John the words of the Lord Jesus for His own disciples are filled with promises, blessings, and prophecies . . . READ John 16:1, 33

the Son of God . . . the Savior of the World . . . the Resurrected Lord

Such Privilege in Having the Words of Jesus

Such Advantage in The Coming of the Holy Spirit

 Such Knowledge in Revealing the Truth from Jesus & About Jesus

The Personal Work of the Holy Spirit in the World--convicting

The Personal Work of Holy Spirit through His Apostles--communicating

 Testifier . . . Revealer . . . Speaker . . . Teacher . . .

 Divine source of the words and writings of the Scriptures

 Author of The Truth 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Pete 1:20-21

The Spirit of Truth John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26 “He will . . .”

“He will disclose/declare/tell to you . . .” meaning “to provide information, with the possible implication of considerable detail—‘to announce, to inform, to tell.’ cf. 1 Corinthians 2:12-14

When you compare John 14:26 with 16:13, you see the wonderful way that God arranged for the writing of the New Testament Scriptures. The Spirit would remind them of what Jesus had taught them; this gives us the four Gospels. The Spirit would also “guide” them into all truth; and this would result in the epistles. “He will show you things to come” refers to the prophetic Scriptures, especially the Book of Revelation. Warren Wiersbe

1. The Spirit of Truth Will Help Them

 with The Truth from Jesus 16:12

“I have many more things to say to you . . .”

1. The Spirit of Truth Will Guide Them

 In The Truth of Jesus 16:13a

“He will guide you into all the truth”

1. The Spirit of Truth Will Speak To Them

 About The Truth of Jesus 16:13b

“He will Not Speak on His Own Initiative . . .”

Similar language used by Jesus to describe His own ministry

John 14:10, 24; 12:49; 8:28; 7:16 cf. Colossians 1:19; Revelation 1:1

Spiritual blessings in heavenly things are given by the Father to the Son for us, and the Son entrusts the Spirit to convey them to us. Matthew Henry

1. The Spirit of Truth Will Glorify Jesus

 With The Truth of Jesus Revealing the Things of God 16:14-15

“He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine . . .”

making Jesus known and showing Jesus now with the focus and emphasis of the ministry of the Spirit of truth glorifying Jesus

The Spirit’s teaching mission would be first to receive the deposit of Christ-centered truth, then show it to believers. It follows that a ministry, to be Spirit-directed, must be one that magnifies Christ. Wycliffe Bible Commentary

CONCLUSION

It is essential that we see that the work of the Spirit of God is never divorced from Jesus Christ or the Word of God. “He shall testify of Me” (John 15:26); “He shall glorify Me” (John 16:14) . . . Jesus is the truth (John 14:6), and the Word is truth (John 17:17), and the Holy Spirit is “the Spirit of Truth.” Where the Holy Spirit is at work, there must be truth. Warren Wiersbe

So Let’s Consider then what this means for us today . . .

* The Spirit of Truth will help . . . will guide . . . will speak . . . will glorify . . .
* The need for the truth from Jesus and about Jesus in your life as His disciple revealed by the Spirit of truth—motivates our Bible Study
* Without the ministry of the Spirit of Truth communicated in the Word of God we would not have the truth of Jesus—evaluates our theology
* Glorifying Jesus is the ministry of the Spirit of truth so that we also as disciples of Jesus would be glorifying Jesus—activates our ministry