SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THREE: THE PRESENCE, POWER AND PROPERTIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Unit I – HIS PRESENCE

“GOD’S CHAPERONE NEVER LEAVES US ALONE, PART II (THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH)”

Sunday School Lesson III – March 15, 2015
Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: John 16:1-15
Required Reading: John 16:1-15
Motto Text: John 16:7, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.”

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; MacArthur Study Bible; Spiritual Warfare by Dr. David Jeremiah; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; Barnes Notes on the New Testament

Introduction
Our lesson continues in Jesus’ Upper Room discourse which began in John chapter 13 and continued until He led the disciples from the Upper Room across the Kidron Brook into the Garden of Gethsemane where He called upon God the Father and prepared to meet the betrayer Judas Iscariot and was led to trials, tribulation and crucifixion. Jesus began giving the disciples words of encouragement in chapter 14 and promised that He would not leave them comfortless, but would give them another Comforter who I call “God’s Chaperone.” Remember, a chaperone is defined as “A person who accompanies and looks after another person or group of people.” Please read John chapters 13 – 14. Note also John 15:26-27. “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.”

In this lesson in Chapter 16, we will examine further details concerning “God’s Chaperone.” Let us note our Anticipated Power Points:

- The Comfort of the Chaperone. John 16:1-4a
- The Coming of the Chaperone. John 16:4b-7
- The Counsel of the Chaperone. John 16:8-15

Remember the Motto Text, John 16:7 (NLT): “But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.”
I. The Comfort of the Chaperone. John 16:1-4a
   A. Comfort in spite of persecution. vss. 1-2
   Jesus warns the beloved that they are to remain vigilant in spite of threats and actions of discrimination and death. They would be intentionally targeted by the religious of their own people. But the culprit behind the scandal is Satan (Jn. 10:10a). Under no condition were they to doubt or desert the cause they were taught to stand for. The Chaperone would not leave them comfortless. (The Father would send the Comforter to ever abide in the believer (Jn. 14:16). Remember that the greatest discomfort of the disciples would come from the religious. (Note verse 2).

   B. Comfort in spite of the ignorance of their persecutors. vss. 3-4a
   Christ declares that when the sacrilegious persecutors reject and seek to destroy the disciples and all those who stand for His cause, He is well aware and will not forget them. (Read John 15:18-21). They are totally ignorant of the Father who sent the Son, and as they hate the Son, they will hate His messengers. All comfort lies in the presence and power of the Chaperone.

II. The Coming of the Chaperone. John 16:4b-7
As long as Jesus walked among the disciples, they had nothing to worry about, and they were confident in Him. But now Jesus is declaring that He must leave the earth to return unto the presence of the Father, and take a seat at His right hand. Hebrews 10:12, “But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God.” Jesus declares again that He was leaving, yet this was not His first time. (Read Matthew 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:17-19). Time after time the Saviour declared His departure, and why? So that the Comforter, God’s Chaperone, would be able to come and take up residence in the disciples and all believers forever. (Read John 14:16-17). Remember Jesus’ exhortation in verse 7, “It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send him unto you.”

   Beloved, Jesus in flesh speaking reverently, was not able to indwell all believers. In fact, in His fleshly body, Jesus came to die for the sin of the world. But after His death, burial and resurrection, He would be able to send the Holy Spirit who could indwell all believers at all times. That’s why it was truly expedient or profitable for the disciples for Jesus to go back to Heaven.

III. The Counsel of the Chaperone. John 16:8-15
Now Jesus gives perfect counsel concerning the work of God’s Chaperone. With these points by H. L. Willmington, we can present our thoughts concerning the Counsel of the Spirit.

   “A. To Convict Sinners and Condemn Satan. vv. 8-11”
   Jesus declares through John that the Holy Spirit would convict or reprove, expose or convince, literally shine the righteous light of truth in the unrighteous hearts of all human beings! (Jn. 3:16-17). When this light is shone from the Holy Spirit nothing can be hidden and one must make a decision. According to verses 9-10, the Holy Spirit will expose three things to the sinner: His Sin; Christ’s Righteousness; and Satan’s Judgment and all who choose him! Quoting Finis Dakes: “Of sin: that unbelief is the foundation of sin and the source of sinfulness that will damn men (Mk. 16:16; Jn. 3:16-20, 36).
   Of righteousness: that man’s righteousness is useless (Is. 64:6); that Christ is our righteousness (I Cor. 1:30) and that by Him alone and by faith in His atonement can we be righteous (Rom. 3:22-25; II Cor. 5:14-21).
   Of Judgment: that men who believe in Christ will escape the judgment of damnation (Jn. 3:15-20; 5:24); that all who refuse to believe will be damned with Satan (Jn. 3:36; Rev. 20:11-15; 21:8).”

   “B. To Counsel Saints. vv. 12-13”
   Jesus wants the disciples to know they can only handle a little truth at a time. As in music the term “poco, poco” means “little by little,” Jesus is expressing the full, total facts of his work can only be shared to these disciples a little bit at a time. And the Holy Spirit will reveal it to them as they are able to hear it! What a friend we have in Jesus who would not give us more than we are able to bear! But note, the Holy Spirit will not speak of His own accord, but only what Jesus wants His people to know at the proper time in the future. Finally, the Chaperone’s counsel is:

   “C. To Champion the Saviour. vv. 14-15”
   The Holy Spirit, Third Person of the Godhead, works in complete harmony with the Father and Son. He never steps outside of the realm of being a Champion of the full work of Christ for the redemption of His Church!

CLOSING
God’s Chaperone (The Truth) was sent to validate the atoning work of Christ in whom the Father is well pleased! (Read John 19:30; Hebrews 1:3, 13; Revelation 5:11-14)