

Jesus^{3D}

The Ascension and Pentecost

Intro

Turn to John 16.

Outline:

The value of the Holy Spirit

The work of the Holy Spirit

The presence of the Holy Spirit

Review

We've seen a lot. We now come near the end. The Ascension of Jesus, and Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The value of the Holy Spirit

Before we talk about the Pentecost, I want to back up for a minute, and give ourselves some context. Let's look, for a moment, at the last supper. The Passover Feast that Jesus shared with his disciples right before he died.

The best thing that ever happened to them

It's not an exaggeration to say that Jesus was the best thing that ever happened to the 12 disciples.

- Mishnah's definition of school / The disciples failed.
- Jesus says "Follow Me" / They got way more than they expected
- Radical teaching
- After about a year with Jesus, it gets real.
- Peter's Mother-in-law
- Centurion's daughter
- **The funeral at Nain**
- **The storm**
- The multitudes...
- **Caesarea Philippi.**

I wonder what that was like. What did the disciples talk about at dinner? “*Remember our life 3 years ago... fishing, tax collecting. Who’d have thought we’d end up here?*”

If given the choice wouldn't you want that? Man I would.

John 16:5-7 (Context)

“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: **it is to your advantage that I go away**, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, He will send him to you.

It is to your advantage

What? Jesus just said that having the Holy Spirit in your life is better than him being here in person.

This is a radical shift in thinking for many of us. Because we don't really understand the work of the holy Spirit.

Gospel is more than “Jesus died for my sins.”

When we think that the gospel, that christianity, is simply the fact that Jesus died for me so that I can go to heaven, then yes, Jesus' physical presence would be the most important thing.

Heaven is not the point.

The work of the Holy Spirit

I love the way Luke begins the book of Acts.

Acts 1:1, “In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach...”

The life, teaching, healing, miracles, death, resurrection, of Jesus... That was just the beginning. “You don't know the half of it.”

The work of christ / not a ticket to heaven, but the beginning of a revolution.

Jesus came to overthrow the rule of sin and death. That spark was ignited by his death and resurrection, and is being completed by the fire of his holy spirit.

John 16:8-11

And when he comes, **he will convict the world** concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning **judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.**

12 “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, **he will guide you into all the truth**, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 yAll that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Holy Spirit accomplishes the work of building God’s kingdom.

Do you want to know God? The Holy Spirit is the one who reveals him to you. (Convict of righteousness because I go away.)

Do you want to build the kingdom? The power of god that raised Jesus from the dead, the Holy Spirit, is the one who does that.

What is that like?

Radical

- Healing
- Visions
- Words of wisdom

How do I get it?

The presence of the Holy Spirit

I think there are some of you here thinking, “this sounds weird.” That’s fine. **Acts 19** (We didn’t even know there was a Holy Spirit.)

Maybe you are here and as I describe the work of the Holy Spirit, and the intimacy with God that results from cultivating that relationship, you're looking at that with longing. You're thinking, "Gosh I wish I had that."

I'm here to tell you that you can have that. Gospel means free:

- Favor
- Blessing
- Forgiveness
- Holy Spirit

In **Luke 11**, Jesus tells us how do get this kind of relationship with the Holy Spirit. he says, speaking about the Holy Spirit:

"Ask, and you will receive. Seek, and you will find. Knock, and the door will be open unto you."

Let's ask.