May 15, 2016

### The Holy Spirit Is Our Teacher and Reminder

# Holy Spirit's Day

- HS's day; honor, praise 3<sup>rd</sup> person of Trinity as Lord, giver life; creator, strengthener Christian faith. Called Pentecost. Once one of sacred Jewish festivals from OT, harvest-time. "Weeks;" took place 7 wks & 1 day (50, Pent) after Passover. Know: Passover time when Jesus died, rose. So Pent falls 50 days after Easter; as Christians, celebrate Pentecost every year: not Jewish harvest but outpouring of HS: day disciples gathered, hear wind, tongues of fire, spoke in languages (like today), preached re Jesus, thousands became Christians. Only beginning; ever since first Pent, HS has continued to fill hearts of Christian people across world, like you/me, with faith in Jesus. Pent is HS's day.
- This year Pent, words Jesus Gospel, Jn 14 MT evening, right before death, res. That night, speaking re what would happen in little over 50 days on day of Pent. Vs. 25. Jesus teacher, spoke truths of kingdom of God to disciples while walked earth. But day would come (after died, rose), would ascend heaven; wouldn't be with them same way. So, vs. 25-26. So, HS is our teacher, reminder.

# The Holy Spirit Is Our Teacher

- First, teacher. You've probably lots teachers, taught Word of God: parents, SS teachers, LES, SLHS, certainly pastors. But one who truly taught those teachings into depths of heart was HS. He is Advocate, Counsellor, one Jesus & Father send to teach us. Without HS, Christianity is just academic subject, philosophy. So only way believe in JC in heart through teaching work of HS.
- Here's what I mean; approach Christian faith as if brand new to Christianity: Why believe that God out there never seen, heard from? What proof exists? Ever talked to him; he reached out to you? Why believe he's upset with your behavior? Really think done something so bad that actually deserve what Christians call hell, eternity in fire? Think loving God would really do that to person? In fact, doesn't Bible even say conceived in sin, means angry with you before even born? So when demands be holy, without sin to get to heaven unrealistic expectations? Not even born with chance! Of course, Christians talk plan of salvation: Jewish boy from 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestine, became rabbi, got in trouble with law, executed as criminal; fine, good teacher. Problem: Christians say world's Savior, Son of God, and God Father actually sent him to die on cross in my place. First: I do not deserve to die on cross; no one does. Second: what monster of Father would kill son?! You spank too hard, jail for child abuse. Christians want me to believe in God of love, kills son, and that that somehow impacts me?! Lot of people make big deal of Jesus; just don't see it.
- How line thinking make feel? Defensive, angry? Or say, "Well, when put it that way...little out there." Realize, how most of planet feels about what we Christians believe? Not far out there; it's among us. In America, rise among Millennial generation (my age) who view Bible & organized Christianity as an embarrassingly ancient school of thought. But they like thought of a Jesus, so they redefine him. If search YouTube, "I'm Christian, but I'm not..." you'll find videos of people my age trying to redefine Jesus Christ, his mission, his Gospel. Not teaching of HS!
- So what has HS taught you, though real study of Scripture? What taught you? See: all along you've had teacher far greater than any pastor, parent; you've had HS himself as your teacher, your heart has been his classroom. Through means of grace (G in W&S), HS has convinced you (conviction called faith) that everything I cynically summarized moment ago actually true, in fact, most important truth you could ever know. Despite fact world scoffs at it; science can't prove it; you can't see it with eyes, reason you believe that you need Savior and that Jesus is that Savior is that HS taught you. HS taught you: yes, born, conceived sin; yes, deserve God's punishment; yes, Jesus (1<sup>st</sup> cent Jewish rabbi) is Son of God; yes, trade places with us to bear our punishment, on cross; yes, that divine transaction of our sins for Christ's righteousness does in fact mean our status before God is changed for the good, and that all who believe in Jesus are saved from hell, will inherit eternal life. And the only reason you

believe that: because HS has taught you. **Vs. 26a**. HS has worked into fiber of your being conviction of this Christian Gospel; why you're believer. And if you're here today and not believer but I've piqued interest, I think HS is working that conviction on your right now. But today: **vs. 26a**.

# The Holy Spirit Is Our Reminder

• Vs. 26b. So teacher and reminder (not scribbled note on calendar {remember to pick up...} but person who reminds us). HS is reminder, because tendency to forget. Or, to say more bluntly: when we resist teaching work of HS (by not coming to church, reading Bible, taking faith seriously), Satan snatches faith away. Faster than might think. So HS comes to remind us of God's love when we need that reminder most. Terminal illness – HS REMINDS YOU: Michael, Chinese – Jn 14. Job loss – Rosa, Spanish – Isa 43. Marriage collapsing – Dean, German – Ps 23. Bullied, picked on, no one like you, all alone – I, Latin – Mt 28. Guilt over sin that haunts, fell ashamed – Hoomin & Vic, Korean & Greek – Rom 8 & Jn 3. HS (who creates, grows, strengthens faith) vs. 26. HS is teacher, reminder.

### The Result is Peace

Result, peace. Vs. 27. Peace – one of most precious gifts of HS. What cynical, skeptical unbelief lacks, longs for; what sinful world wants, but is always just out of reach apart from Christ – peace.
"Therefore since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Rom 5:1); vs. 27a. Not absence of military conflict or ceasefire in war. Peace from knowing things are okay between you and God, because of Christ, who died for you, loves, forgives, always with you. That's peace that HS, our teacher & reminder, works in heart. Only reason you're a Christian, believe in Jesus as your Savior, is because of HS. And today's HS's day. So, "Come HS, renew our hearts and kindle in us the fire of your love."



### John 14:25-27

<sup>25</sup> "All this I have spoken while still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> 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."

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