

Monday, 9 July 2018 John 16:7

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, I will send him to you.

Proverbs 9:10 *The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.*

The Fear of the LORD must begin with an understanding of whom we fear. Who, not what is the LORD, the Holy One? We must recognize, acknowledge and understand that the LORD, God, the Almighty is a Trinitarian being, the Three in One, far beyond my limited comprehension. That cannot be an excuse but is a limit that I must strive to reach.

The LORD, God, the Almighty is God, the Father, is God, the Son, and is God, the Holy Spirit. One yet with three manifestations. The Holy Spirit, the Helper, has been placed in my heart as the manifestation of the LORD, God, the Almighty. It is appropriate to examine who He is and how I must relate to Him.

Tuesday, 10 July 2018 John 14: 26, John 16:13-15

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

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. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The term that comes to mind is Master Mentor. The Holy Spirit, as a member of the Trinity, is fully cognizant of all aspects of the Mind of the LORD. Nothing is hidden from Him, but He is also fully aware of my limitations. Trying to drink from a fire-hose would be an inadequate simile if I had to understand the Word of God in its entirety at one time. The Spirit teaches, leads, corrects and encourages me in my walk as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Wednesday, 11 July 2018 2 Corinthians 1:21-22, 2 Corinthians 5:5

And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

First, the presence of the Holy Spirit in my heart is an

irrevocable seal of acceptance into the family of the LORD, God, the Almighty. The seal is a permanent tattoo; it cannot be erased or excised. I cannot lose it, but I can tarnish it. That Seal of Acceptance is not only residing in my heart but must be beaming with laser intensity from every aspect of my life. Not there yet!

Thursday,¹ 12 July 2018 Romans 8:27, 1 Corinthians 12:11, Romans 15:30

And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

All these are empowered by the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills.

I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

The Holy Spirit displays emotions, normal emotions as is expected from every sentient being. He has a mind, a will and expresses emotions. He is not some ghostly being that is a figment of my imagination. He comes to me in love, evaluating my condition and choosing the appropriate path to lead me into the mind of the LORD, God, the Almighty.

Friday, 13 July 2018 Hebrews 3:7, 1 Timothy 4:1, 1 Corinthians 2:13

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, "Today, if you hear his voice, Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,

And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

He speaks, clearly and succinctly, He did not disappear at the end of the apostolic dispensation. He is a faithful transmitter of the Word of the LORD. Sometimes he whispers, sometimes He speaks and sometimes, especially when dealing with me, shouts. His goal is to lead me into a deeper understanding of the Scriptures, and the Word applies to my life.

A useful study might be to examine the methods that the Spirit has used to lead me into the Fear of the LORD. It would be painful at times.

Saturday, 14 July 2018 Ephesians 4:30, Hebrews 10:29

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for

¹ Thursday, Friday, and Saturday are based on "Drawing Near, A Life of Intimacy with God by John Brevere, page 140.

the day of redemption.

How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace?

Now to look at some of the negatives in our relationship with the Holy Spirit. Yes, He can be grieved. How can He not when I deliberately ignore His advice and defy His instructions? If He didn't love me, it would be the equivalent of a Heavenly shoulder shrug and on to the next problem. No! Not! Never! He is the expression of the love of the LORD, God, the Almighty for His children.

Can He be insulted, outraged? Absolutely! For example Exodus 20:7 *"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.* That's the LORD, God, the Almighty, the Trinity, the Holy Triumvirate, Father-Son-and Holy Spirit. And I used the Name of the LORD as a throwaway insult?

Hebrews 10:31 *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.*

Lord's Day, 15 July 2018 Psalm 119:47

for I find my delight in Your commandments, which I love.

Lord, it always daunting to testify to the family. Give me the words to speak, and the courage to stand before my brothers and sisters, children and grandchildren, nephews and nieces to present Your testimonies. I take this verse as a promise and as a word to speak from.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



July 9-15, 2018

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in:2 Timothy 1:15-18

May the Lord show mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, because he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains. On the contrary, when he was in Rome, he searched hard for me until he found me. May the Lord grant that he will find mercy from the Lord on that day! You know very well in how many ways he helped me in Ephesus.

May the Lord show mercy to the families of the [congregation] who have frequently supported each other in prayer during times of illness and affliction. The love and concern exhibited by the saints is a powerful testimony to binding power of the fellowship that has been inspired by the Holy Spirit moving among us.

May we continue to grow as a body of believers united in You. Amen

To fear or not to fear, that is the question.

The fear of the Lord, an expression that occurs many times in Scripture, 142 in the ESV in various forms, is not well understood in the Church today. For many, the phrase represents a weak and flabby description of an overly saccharine spiritual being of some sort. It certainly does not include the concept of the LORD, God the Almighty who spoke all things into being and who controls all things.

Join with me in examining the fear of the LORD and seeking an understanding of life in the Kingdom of Heaven in the here and now as guided by that fear.

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