

Monday, 27 August 2018 John 15:26-27

“But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

A powerful pair of verses that serve as a building block of my faith. The Spirit of truth, sent by the Father to bear witness to the fact that Jesus of Nazareth is indeed Jesus the Christ, Son of Man and Son of God. It is a truth statement that I can either deny or accept; there is no middle ground. If I accept as truth, I must witness to the truth of that statement. Every aspect of my life, every word from my mouth, must reflect that truth.

Tuesday, 28 August 2018 John 16:13

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.

I see this verse as absolute confirmation of the unity of the Godhead. The Spirit speaks as the voice of the LORD, God, the Almighty. It is the voice of God, the Father, God, the Son and God, the Holy Spirit. **IT IS NOT THE VOICES OF EACH SPEAKING AFTER ARRIVING AT A COMMON CONSENSUS, IT IS THE VOICE OF THE LORD.**

Betty and I consider and frequently refer to ourselves as a Us, a unique being created by our marriage. However, we are not a seamless Us. Ask friends and family who have been observers in those times when the parts of the Us beginning to display that the union is not seamless. The Trinity is seamless, truly the LORD, God the Almighty, a true Three in One. Complete and perfect harmony.

Wednesday, 29 August 2018 John 20:21-23

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

Back in the days when I worked for a living, I sometimes had a boss who didn't understand the three critical elements of management that are displayed here. 1) He delegates the task that He has been given by the Father to me. Now, I know where I'm going; Matthew 28:19 takes care of any questions I might have on this point. 2) He makes sure I am correctly equipped for my assignment. Don't send me out to mow the lawn with a

set of fingernail clippers. He provides me with all the power of the Holy Spirit. 3) He lays out the scope of the assignment. I am to lead others into lives as disciples of Jesus Christ, teaching them all He has given to me. And under the Spirit's leadership, nurture those who display the fruit of the Spirit.

Thursday, 30 August 2018 Acts 1:1-2

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen.

Again, further confirmation that the commands of the Lord Jesus flowed through Him from the Godhead to His chosen people. And that includes me! And all those who name Him as Lord and Savior!

An additional conclusion is that the writings of the apostles are, as Peter reminds us in his second letter, "that the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior [are] through the apostles." (2 Peter 1:2) Woe to those who claim only the words of Jesus, printed in red in some translations, is the only authoritative word of the LORD.

Friday, 31 August 2018 Acts 1:3-5

He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Luke, from the very first words of Acts, cements the continuity of the Scripture as he ties in the words of the Lord to that period between the Resurrection and Pentecost. That had to be a time of fierce attacks by the Evil One; trying to introduce doubt and uncertainty into the hearts of the followers of the Lord. But they held firm until the day the promise was fulfilled, gathered in the upper room, encouraging one another. We see the result so vividly in Peter, transformed from a cowardly denier of Jesus to an impassioned and powerful witness on the day of Pentecost.

Saturday, 1 September 2018 Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

All who accept Jesus the Christ as Lord and Savior just got

drafted as Christian Soldiers, into the Army of the LORD, God, the Almighty. Not to convert the heathen by force of arms but to conquer by a witness to the truth that He is the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him (John 14:6)

Lord's Day, 2 September 2018 Psalm 119:97-98

Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

Your law does not include the Law of Unexpected Consequences; it never lets me down; it is comprehensive and complete governing every aspect of my life. To live according to Your precepts is to live in Your Kingdom, a place where Your Shalom is the ethos of the land. Praise You, my Lord and my Master.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



August 28-September 2, 2018

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: Romans 12:12

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Lord Jesus, we come to you this week, filled with thanksgiving and praise, hearts overflowing in gratitude for we are Yours. May there be a continuous outpouring of that certain expectation that Your Spirit is ever present to guide us; leading us to pray for and bless those who persecute and curse us.

We confess that we are lacking, failing to obey the dictum to pray without ceasing. We plead, dearest LORD, that we will be so drawn to You that every breath we take, every heart beat, will rise to you as a prayer of worship and praise. May our first thought of the morning rise to You in worship, our every thought during the day bring glory to Your Name, our last thought of the day be to remember each blessing of the day and lift our thanksgivings to You.

We pray this in the power of Your Name *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.

Voices Together is published daily on the website of the Fellowship of Ailbe, www.ailbe.org; along with material by other writers to encourage and assist in our walks as disciples of Jesus Christ. These messages can also be received as daily emails or in a monthly printed version by sending a request to:

Pastor John Nunnikhoven, The Church at Prison, Inc.

PO Box 8318, Essex Junction, VT 05452 or to prior@ailbe.org

The Fellowship of Ailbe, (www.ailbe.org)

Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.