

JOHN 16:7-11
August 6, 1989
ROME GEORGIA
(CF. DEHAAN 104 & 170)
January 20, 2002

- I. THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT INTO THE WORLD
 - A. TO CONFIRM
 - B. TO COUNSEL

- II. THE CONVICTING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE WORLD
 - A. OF SIN
 - 1. CONFIRMATION OF THE EXISTENCE OF GOD
 - 2. COUNSELOR FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST
 - a. REPRESENTS THE GUILTY
 - b. OFFERS A PARDON TO THE CONVICTED

"WHEN THE EXPLORER NANSEN WENT ON HIS ARCTIC EXPEDITION, HE TOOK WITH HIM A CARRIER PIGEON THAT WAS STRONG AND FLEET OF WING. AFTER LIVING FOR TWO YEARS IN THE DESOLATION OF THE FAR NORTH, HE WROTE A BRIEF MESSAGE ON A PIECE OF PAPER, INSERTED IT INTO A SMALL CAPSULE AND TIED IT TO THE BIRD'S BODY. TAKING THE TREMBLING CREATURE IN HIS HAND, HE FLUNG HER FROM HIS SHIP, OUT INTO THE ICY COLD WEATHER. SHE CIRCLED THREE TIMES, AND THEN, STRAIGHT AS AN ARROW, SHE SHOT SOUTH 1,000 MILES OVER ICE, AND ANOTHER 1,000 MILES OVER THE FROZEN WASTES OF THE OCEAN TO THE COUNTRY OF NORWAY, DROPPING AT LAST INTO THE LAP OF THE EXPLORERS WIFE. THE JOY THAT CAME TO HER HEART WAS INEXPRESSIBLE; FOR SHE KNEW BY THE ARRIVAL OF THE PIGEON THAT HER HUSBAND WAS ALIVE AND SAFE IN THAT FAR NORTH TERRITORY.

AS I READ THIS STORY I WAS REMINDED OF THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HEAVENLY DOVE. JESUS HAD TOLD HIS FOLLOWERS THAT IF HE WENT AWAY, HE WOULD SEND THE COMFORTER FROM HEAVEN AS A TOKEN OF THE FACT THAT HE WAS LIVING AND REIGNING AT THE FATHER'S RIGHT HAND. (JOHN 14:16, 17, 26 ACTS 2:31-36.

CF. PETER'S ADDRESS:

Acts 2:32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the Promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. **Acts 2:36** Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

When the day of Pentecost was fully come, he fulfilled his promise. His trusting disciples were assured by the coming of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had indeed reached the Gloryland. Empowered by this indwelling Holy Spirit, they went forth in Christ's name to do great exploits for God." db 3-24-68.

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.

AND WHEN HE IS COME, HE WILL REPROVE THE WORLD OF SIN, AND OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND OF JUDGMENT:

The promise of a Comforter, (of the same nature as Christ Himself, Cf. 14:16ff.) is not only significant to the believer, but it is also of the **UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE UNBELIEVER**. For without the convicting work of the Holy Spirit, men would not desire a right relationship with God.

The initial work that the Holy Spirit does in anyone's life is to **CONVICT** the heart of the unbeliever so that he sees himself as guilty before God and in need of a Savior.

This work of "**REPROVING**" the unbelievers of their sin is essential. It reveals to an individual their true condition before God and their need for His cleansing in their lives.

We can labor day and night in the fields, but unless the Holy Spirit convicts the unsaved - they will never come into a true relationship with Christ.

I Corinthians 3:6 I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

WHY? Because the unsaved man or woman is BLIND, (II Cor. 4:3-4) they are DEAD in trespasses and sin. They abide in "DARKNESS" rather than light.

Does this mean that they are totally without any knowledge concerning the existence of God? NO!

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge." Psalm 19:1

Romans 1:20 "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and GodHOOD; so that they are without excuse: "

Apart from the **CONVICTING** work of the Holy Spirit - the preaching of the cross is "foolishness."

I Corinthians 1:18 For the **preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness**; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

I Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: **for they are foolishness unto him**: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

THE NATURAL MAN WALKS BY SIGHT - NOT BY FAITH. BUT GOD HAS GIVEN THE NATURAL MAN A "VISUAL AID" - THE UNIVERSE! THE STARS BY NIGHT AND THE BLUE SKY BY DAY ALL SPEAK OF THE WISDOM OF THE CREATOR.

EVEN THE DEMONS BELIEVE IN GOD - AND THEY TREMBLE. THE ONLY THING IN GOD'S CREATION THAT CAN DENY THE EXISTENCE OF GOD IS FOUND IN

P S . 1 4 : 1 "THE FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART, THERE IS NO GOD".

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and MEN LOVED DARKNESS RATHER THAN LIGHT, because their deeds were evil.

UNSAVED MEN LOVE DARKNESS! THEY WANT TO STAY THERE AND STAY AWAY FROM THE TRUTH. THEY WANT TO MAKE THEIR OWN DEFINITION OF WHAT SIN IS AND HOW WE CAN HAVE A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. THEY WANT TO MAKE THEIR OWN STANDARD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND IGNORE GOD'S STANDARD.

This is not just unsaved "religious" men, but even the pious religionist amongst us.

Romans 10:3-4 - "For they, being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves to the righteousness of God.

THEY WANT TO MAKE THEIR OWN SCENARIO FOR THE JUDGEMENT WHICH IS TO COME, THEY CANNOT STAND THE THOUGHT OF GOD'S FUTURE JUDGEMENT.

One of the many Roman officials that Paul was called before was Felix the governor. Paul spoke plainly and at length about "RIGHTEOUSNESS, TEMPERANCE, AND JUDGMENT TO COME." But Felix, though he listened to Paul often, did not respond to the gospel invitation:

Acts 24:22 And when FELIX heard these things, having more perfect knowledge of that way, HE DEFERRED THEM, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter.

Acts 24:24 And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ.

And as he reasoned of **RIGHTEOUSNESS, TEMPERANCE, AND JUDGMENT TO COME, FELIX TREMBLED**, and answered, GO THY WAY FOR THIS TIME; WHEN I HAVE A CONVENIENT SEASON, I WILL CALL FOR THEE.

(note that: "**judgement to come**" differs from "Judgement" past, in John 16:8.)

EVEN THE ELOQUENCE OF PAUL COULD NOT DRAW A MAN INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD APART FROM THE INTERVENTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE SUBMISSION OF THE WILL OF THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE WILL OF GOD!

IT IS POSSIBLE FOR A MAN TO HEAR THE GOSPEL, BE CONVINCED THAT HE IS A SINNER, KNOW THAT HE HAS THEREBY FORFEITED ANY CLAIM TO RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND KNOW THAT THERE IS A JUDGEMENT TO COME. ALL OF THIS MAY BE THE RESULT OF THE "CONSCIENCE OF MAN."
SUCH COULD VERY WELL HAVE BEEN THE CASE WITH FELIX.

When a lawbreaker is caught red-handed, he often experiences these emotions. These do not necessarily lead to Godly-repentance. In fact, they often lead one to despair. This results in trying to hide from life's responsibilities; **drugs, booze, infidelity, all are symptoms of trying to throw off the memory of God.**

WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTS A MAN OF SIN, HE SHOWS HIM NOT ONLY THAT HE IS A SINNER, UNRIGHTEOUS AND UNDER JUDGEMENT - BUT ALSO - THAT THROUGH THE EFFICACIOUS WORK OF CHRIST ON CALVARY:

1. Sin has been REMITTED
2. Righteousness is IMPUTED
3. Judgement is PAST. (DeHaan 104, p. 70.)

John 16:8 And when he is come, HE WILL REPROVE THE WORLD OF SIN, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **OF SIN, BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE NOT ON ME;**

Notice that the Holy Spirit's conviction is a conviction of "SIN" and not of "SINS." **The SIN THAT DAMNS a man to HELL is the REJECTION OF GOD'S OFFER OF REDEMPTION.** That redemption comes only by accepting of the finished work of Christ on the cross. The primary purpose of the **convicting work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal to men their need to receive the Lord Jesus Christ.** Men know that they are sinners. They are born that way. The SIN that the Holy Spirit convicts of is the sin of rejecting Jesus. **OF SIN, BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE NOT ON ME;**

In the sight of God, all men are sinners. There is no difference between a RELIGIOUS SINNER and a MURDEROUS SINNER.

The city of NY was held hostage by one man. Terror was the topic at every table. Those on Wall street and Those on Skid row, all trembled and waited for the next round of murderous mayhem. This was not the doing of Osama Bin Laden, or Saddam Hussain, but rather the result of the homicidal rage of one man known as "THE SON OF

SAM". Women died their hair blond to try and hide from a homicidal maniac who chose his brunette victims because his german shepard Sam, told him to kill them. After 13 months of terror, David Berkowitz, a 24 year old postal worker was arrested. Adopted child, jewish home, drawn to evil. Eventually, he joined a Satanic group intent on hastening the coming battle of Armageddon. David began by throwing large rocks off of interstate interpasses. Escalated to setting over 2,000 fires (all documented in his diary), and ultimately, and the request of his demon handebers, became the Son of Sam.

1979 - throat slashed.

1987 - at new prison, Ricky Lopez witnessed to him. David thought Jesus Christ ws just some sort of Catholic gy. Gave him a NT with Psalms. Since he was jewish, Rickey suggested he begin by reading the Psalms.

Psalm 18: 3, 6 and 34:6

David Berkowitz, "Son of Sam" "The .44-caliber Killer." 1977 . "Fresh Power". p. 130

. . . FOR THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE: FOR ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD; Romans 3:22-23

"THE DEGREE OF ETERNAL PUNISHMENT WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE DEGREE OF SINS COMMITTED AND THE DEGREE OF LIGHT WHICH WAS REJECTED," . . . #104.

But the fact of the condemnation of a sinner depends on one thing and that is whether or not the individual has accepted the finished work of Christ on their behalf. Kings and clowns, Yuppies and Whoopies, Protestants and Catholics, Jews and Gentiles, must all come to God in the same manner.

That is by FAITH! BELIEVING on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The question of SIN has been settled once and FOR ALL at the cross.

IT IS NO LONGER A QUESTION OF WHAT TO DO WITH SIN - BUT WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH THE SON.

FANNY J. CROSBY PUT IT SUCCINCTLY WHEN SHE WROTE:

O PERFECT REDEMPTION, THE PURCHASE OF BLOOD!
TO EVERY BELIEVER THE PROMISE OF GOD
THE VILEST OFFENDER WHO TRULY BELIEVES
THAT MOMENT FROM JESUS A PARDON RECEIVES
(TO GOD BE THE GLORY #127)

THE MOST CORRUPT SINNER OR THE MOST SELF-RIGHTEOUS RELIGIONIST MUST BOTH COME IN THE SAME MANNER - BY FAITH IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

I Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acception, that Christ Jesus came into the world to SAVE SINNERS; of whom I am chief.

Romans 4:5 But to him that WORKETH NOT, BUT BELIEVETH on him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness.

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

THE KEY HERE IS THAT

"Christ Jesus came into the world to SAVE SINNERS;"

BEFORE AN INDIVIDUAL CAN BE SAVED, HE MUST REALIZE THAT HE IS LOST.

ISAIAH TELLS US PLAINLY THAT

"ALL OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS ARE AS FILTHY RAGS" 64:6

Mark 2:17 . . . Jesus . . . saith unto them, THEY THAT ARE WHOLE
HAVE NO NEED OF THE PHYSICIAN, BUT THEY THAT ARE SICK: I CAME NOT
TO CALL THE RIGHTEOUS, BUT SINNERS TO REPENTANCE.

WHEN THE PHARISEES ASKED JESUS WHAT THEY NEEDED TO DO IN ORDER TO WORK
THE WORKS OF GOD HE REPLIED:

THIS IS THE WORK OF GOD, THAT YE BELIEVE ON HIM WHOM HE HATH SENT.

John 6:29

MEN WANT TO COME TO GOD ON THEIR OWN TERMS. THE PROBLEM IS THAT THEIR
TERMS CHANGE FROM DAY TO DAY. THE LONGER THEY LIVE AND THE MORE THEY
SIN THE MORE LIBERAL THEIR TERMS FOR SALVATION ARE.
BUT GOD SAYS:

Romans 3:10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

GOD IN HIS WISDOM AND RIGHTEOUSNESS RECOGNIZES MAN'S PLIGHT AND HIS
TOTAL INABILITY TO REDEEM HIMSELF.

GOD IN HIS MERCY AND LOVE HAS PROVIDED A WAY OF SALVATION FOR
MANKIND. THAT IS, HIS SON, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

THE HOLY SPIRIT CLARIFIES THIS IN THE HEARTS OF MEN. HE CONVICTS, HE DRAWS, HE ENABLES: HE IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE SALVATION EXPERIENCE.

Revelation 22:17 AND THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE SAY, COME. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. AND WHOSOEVER WILL, let him take the water of life freely.

THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD CONVICTS MEN OF THEIR "SIN." THAT IS, THEIR REJECTION OF
JESUS CHRIST. HE ENLIGHTENS THEM TO THE WAY OF SALVATION. IT IS ONLY BY BEING
SENSITIVE TO THE PRODDINGS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT A MAN MAY COME INTO A RIGHT
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

Hebrews 3:7 WHEREFORE (AS THE HOLY GHOST SAITH, TO DAY IF YE WILL HEAR HIS VOICE,
HARDEN NOT YOUR HEARTS, AS IN THE PROVOCATION, IN THE DAY OF TEMPTATION IN THE
WILDERNESS:

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. **For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.** He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

IF YOU ARE HERE AND YOU DO NOT KNOW THE SAVIOR, IT IS TIME TO STOP
"TRYING" TO EARN YOUR SALVATION AND START "TRUSTING" IN THE FINISHED
WORK OF CHRIST.