

HANDOUT : The Gospel of John chapter 16

#1. *“But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, ‘Brood of vipers, who warned you to flee from the coming retribution? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance, and do not presume to tell yourselves, “We have Abraham as our father,” because I tell you, God can raise children [sons] for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is being laid to the root of the trees, so that any tree failing to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire.’ I baptize you in water for repentance, but the one who comes after me is more powerful than I, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptize you with water and the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.”* Matthew 3:7-12 [also see Luke 3:7-18]

#2. Using judicial language in verses 8-11 Jesus is teaching that although the Holy Spirit’s mission is as Advocate and Counselor for New Covenant believers, He will also be the Prosecutor who will indict the unbelieving world! He will expose the sin of unbelief; He will reveal the righteousness of Christ; and Satan and every enemy of Christ will face judgment.

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| Sin | To refuse to believe in Jesus as the Messiah and in all that He has taught is a sin [verse 9 and John 3:20] |
| Righteousness (Justice) | Jesus was speaking the truth when He said He came from and was returning to the Father and that heaven is His home [verse 10] and although He was condemned to die He was truly righteous [8:46] and deserved the title Son of God [10:33, 19:7]. |
| Judgment | Satan and all those who chose Satan over Christ have condemned themselves and will face God’s judgment [verse 11 and John 5:26-29; 12:31] |

#3. The title “the Spirit of Truth” is repeated three times in 14:17, 15:26, and 16:13. These passages help us understand the ministry of God the Holy Spirit in the lives of believers:

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| 14:17 | <i>“you know him because he is with you, he is in you.”</i> |
| 15:26 | <i>“who issues from the Father, he will be my witness.”</i> |
| 16:13-14 | <i>“He will lead you to the complete truth”; “[He] will say only what he has been told”; “He will reveal to you the things to come.” “He will glorify me [Jesus] since all he reveals to you will be taken from what is mine.”</i> |

#4. Beginning in chapter 14 Jesus will tell the disciples that when they keep His commandments whatever they ask in prayer the Father will honor. In the previous two chapters Jesus has made this statement 4 times now in this chapter He has repeated this promise 3 more times:

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| 1). 14:13 | <i>“Whatever you ask in my name I will do...”</i> |
| 2). 14:14 | <i>“If you ask me for anything in my name, I will do it.”</i> |
| 3). 15:7 | <i>“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for whatever you please and you will get it.”</i> |
| 4). 15:16 | <i>“...so that the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name.”</i> |
| 5). 16:23 | <i>“...In all truth I tell you, anything you ask from the Father he will grant in my name.”</i> |
| 6). 16:24 | <i>“Until now you have not asked anything in my name. Ask and you will receive so your joy will be complete.”</i> |
| 7). 16:26 | <i>“When that day comes you will ask in my name;...”</i> |