

John 16:4-15, “The Advantageous Work of the Holy Spirit”

Last Sunday: The Pilgrim life of a believer

Today: The Advantageous Work of the Holy Spirit

Outline:

- 16:4b-7, The Holy Spirit will not come unless Christ leaves first
- 16:8-11, The Holy Spirit will convict the world
- 16:12-13, The Holy Spirit will illuminate the disciples
- 16:14-15, The Holy Spirit will glorify Christ

16:5/ “I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’”

Calvin, “Here Christ reproves the apostles for two faults; first, that they were too much attached to the visible presence of his flesh; and, secondly, that, when this had been taken away, they were seized with grief, and did not lift their eyes to a higher region. The same thing happens to us; for we always hold Christ bound by our senses, and then, if he does not appear to us according to our desire, we contrive for ourselves a ground of despair”

16:8-11/ “And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged”

Jesus will state in each case why the world is completely wrong about Him:

1. Sin: because they do not believe in me
 - a. ἁμαρτία (*hamartia*): Miss the mark
 - b. How has the world sinned? They do not believe that Jesus is the Messiah.
2. Righteousness: because I go to the Father and you will see me no longer
 - a. Δικαιοσύνη (*dikaiousune*): Judicial verdict (God’s)
 - b. Why did the world crucify Christ?
 - i. The Jews: they believed he was committing blasphemy
 - ii. The Romans: he was claiming to be king.
 - iii. The Holy Spirit would convict both groups that they were wrong
3. Judgment: because the ruler of this world is judged (or, has been judged)
 - a. Κρίσις, (*krisis*): from κρίνω, "to separate, distinguish, judge"
 - b. The world’s false judgment of Christ brought on by Satan. Yet, the fact that Christ is sitting at God’s right hand proves his innocence.