

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan**JOHN 16****John 16**

John 14:25-31 is a promise from the Lord Jesus to send another, just like He is; only the Promised One to be sent is Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This theme is picked up again in John 15:26. It seems as though John wanted to let his readers know about what happened after they left the Passover quarters and began the walk and talk to Gethsemane, where they often went to pray in the evenings. He resumes the teaching about the Holy Spirit- about His person and work in the life of the believer. Jesus the Messiah was *"God with them,"* Immanuel. The Holy Spirit, who would come after the ascension to live in the life of all followers of Jesus, would be *"God in them."*

The Holy Spirit would continue to give witness that Jesus is the Messiah and would inspire, bring to memory, oversee, or superintend the writing of the words of the New Testament. This was a promise of Jesus to His disciples. In these closing hours before the crucifixion, the Lord Jesus pre-authenticated the writings of His disciples, later designated Apostles.

Jesus warned His disciples that the message they were going to be preaching and teaching was going to be met with the same results both in life-changing miracles of salvation, forgiveness, and healing, as well as in confrontation with those who heard and hated the message of the Messiah. The Lord told them these things so they would not be offended and stumble when they were persecuted, imprisoned, and called on to die because of their witness of Him.

"These things I have spoken to you so that you may be kept from stumbling. They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for

everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. These things they will do because they have not known the Father or Me. But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. (John 16:1-4)

Jesus told His disciples that if indeed He did not go away, the Promised One (the Holy Spirit) would not be sent. He said, ***"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 depart, I will send Him to you."*** (John 16:7) It is interesting that the word to describe how advantageous it would be is the Greek word, *συμφέρει (sumpherei)*. The Word is a compound word, made up of *sun* (pronounced "soon") and *pherō*. *Sun*, means together and expresses a close, intimate relationship in this context; and *Pherō*, (pronounced like "Pharoah") which means, ***I carry, bear, bring; I conduct, lead.*** This is the same root as is used in 2 Peter 1:20-21, esp. v.21, when the Apostle Peter uses this same root word *pherō* in relation to the inspiration of the Word of God, the Bible, specifically the TNK or Old Testament. That Holy Men of God were *pherō* ***"moved"*** or better ***"carried along"*** the concept is to ***"superintend."*** The Holy Spirit would be the one who would ***"Carry them along"*** and ***"bear them up"*** as they carried out the mission of spreading the message of Jesus and writing down the words of Scripture that we call the New Testament.

Prayer and Action Steps

The Holy Spirit lives in and indwells the life of every follower of Jesus the Christ. He is in our lives and is the presence of Jesus personally within our lives. The Apostle Paul told the Colossian Church that "Jesus/Messiah/Christ in them was their hope of glory. The Holy Spirit in you is the presence of Jesus in you. He is in YOU. Thank you, Lord, for living in my life, never leaving me or forsaking me. Amen