

"The Spirit of Truth"
The Gospel of John Chapter 14:15-24

The One who loved His apostles to the end (John 13:1) and given them a new commandment (John 13:34), tells them that His love must result in obedience. God demonstrated His love to us (Rom. 5:8). Love may be abstract and intangible but its' results are visible. We must not love in word or tongue, but in deed and truth (I John 3:16-18).

Jesus will ask the Father who will send the Holy Spirit in a new and vital way. The Holy Spirit will live forever within them (1Cor. 6:19-20). The Greek word translated Comforter, Counselor, or Helper is *parakletos*. It literally means "one called alongside." The Greek word translated another means one of the same kind. The word *parakletos* is also used of Christ and translated Advocate (IJohn 2:1). Like Christ (John 14:6), the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. He is a divine Person, eternal God, not a mere power or force (Matt. 28:19; John 4:24; Acts 5:3-4, 15:28,28:25; Rom. 8:26; 1Cor. 2:10,12:11; 2Cor. 13:14; 1Tim. 4:1; Heb. 10:15-16; 1Pet. 1:2; Rev. 22:17).

Jesus will not leave them orphans. He is the good Shepherd who cares for His sheep (John 10:11-14). The world will see Him no more, but His own will see Him after the resurrection. They (and we) will have life, His life (Col. 3:4; Gal. 2:20)! They will be much richer, not poorer as He goes to the Father. The Holy Spirit's ministry will not be limited by space and time as Christ was in His human body. The Spirit can be everywhere in the world at the same time without limitation.

The words of Christ that love for Him is demonstrated by keeping His commandments is so critical that it is repeated in verse 21. He says the same again in verse 23, but changes the command to words. These words are the Father's words as well. Furthermore, He repeats this idea in verse 24 but in a negative sense. One who does not love Me does not keep My words. Jesus has put the utmost emphasis on love and obedience (1John 4:10).

The result of love for Christ and obedience to Him will be eternal life (John 3:16; Rom. 10:9-10). God the Father and God the Son will live with that person (verse 23) through the presence of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9-11). Jesus will love that person and show Himself (verse 21) to that one. The three Persons of the triune God work together in perfect harmony to bring lost sinners back into eternal relationship with their God and Savior.

