

“Our Helper” John 15:26-27

²⁶ “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. ²⁷ And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning. John 15:26–27 (NKJV)

I. *The Spirit of Truth is our Helper in the context of hatred and persecution*

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1. *Note the previous context was about hatred –*

¹⁸ “If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. John 15:18 –

²⁵ “But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, ‘They hated Me without a cause.’ John 15:25 (NKJV)

As I told you two weeks ago, seven times the word “hatred” or “hated” or “hate” is used in John 15:18-25, symbolizing the perfect and complete hatred an ungodly world has for Jesus Christ and His followers, us.

2. *The following context is about persecution, the outworking of the “hatred” and ungodly world has for Christ & Christians –*

¹⁶ “These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. ² They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. ³ And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. ⁴ But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them. “And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. John 16:1–4 (NKJV)

3. *It is in contemplation of these great coming difficulties, that Christ as our Shepherd warns us about, so we will be READY for THEM, He tells us we have a Helper - ²⁶ “But when the Helper comes,...*

II. *His title “Helper” in Greek is παράκλητος, paraklytos which means Someone who comes alongside us, to help, to defend, to encourage...*

1. *He is sent by Jesus, and comes from the Father and being the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Godhead, He is to be worshipped –*

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Matthew 28:19 (NKJV)

A. *Note He is God –*

⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 1 Corinthians 12:4–6 (NKJV)

B. *Note He is a Person, He is identified by Jesus as “He” - **He will testify of Me. :26 B**This is important to remember because the Holy Spirit is too often thought of like an impersonal force – “May the force be with you.” Star Wars*

III. *He is identified as the Spirit of Truth –*

... the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. John 15:26

All three members of the Godhead are Truth Tellers –

1. *God the Father is the God of truth, part of His Name is truth –*

⁵ Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶ And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and **truth**, Exodus 34:5–6 (NKJV)

⁴ *He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of **truth** and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He. Deuteronomy 32:4 (NKJV)*

2. *God the Son, Jesus, is truth –*

⁶ Jesus said to him, **“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. John 14:6 (NKJV)**

3. *God, the Spirit is the Spirit of truth –*

... the Spirit of truth... John 15:26

IV. *How does the Spirit of Truth Help us, amid trials and persecution? –*

1. *He does NOT take the hatred, trials, or persecution away –*

² **They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service. John 16:2**

2. *In fact, the TRUTH is the reason for the persecution –*

³⁰ As He spoke these words, many believed in Him. ³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, **“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”** ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants, and have never been in bondage to anyone. How can You say, ‘**You will be made free**’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, **“Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. John 8:30–34 (NKJV)**

A. *In the first part of John 8, Jesus spoke about His relation to the Father, that He is the Son of God, teaching this many believed Him, John 8:30!*

B. *Yet, the truth He would tell them had to do with the FACT they were slaves to sin and needed to be set free – John 8:31-34. In John 8:44-45 the truth He tells them is they are children of the Devil and by the end of the chapter they want to stone Him -*

⁵⁹ Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by. John 8:59 (NKJV)

C. *We don’t like being told we are SINNERS, or totally depraved, but God, Christ, Scripture, faithful ministers tell us –*

⁹ **“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; Who can know it? Jeremiah 17:9 (NKJV)**

3. *A big part of the deceitfulness of our HEARTS is that we LIE to ourselves about our own "goodness"*

Our circumstances can make us feel that we are better, safer than we are – Consider the SELF-DECEPTION that was present in the Church at Laodicea –

¹⁴ **"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write,**

- A. *Note Jesus identifies Himself as a Truth Teller & Expert -*

'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: Revelation 3:14 (NKJV)

- B. *He knows their lukewarmness, and communicates to them how it makes them odious to Himself -*

¹⁵ **"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.**

¹⁶ **So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Revelation 3:15-16 (NKJV)**

- C. *Jesus points out their SELF – DECEPTION, they were lying to themselves, thinking they were better, happier, richer, keener in insight and well-dressed than they were -*

¹⁷ **Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked— Revelation 3:17 (NKJV)**

- D. *They desperately needed only what He could give them -*

¹⁸ **I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. Revelation 3:18 (NKJV)**

- E. *They needed Christ's rebuke and they needed to REPENT, they needed FELLOWSHIP with Christ and to overcome their selves -*

¹⁹ **As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹ To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. Revelation 3:19-21 (NKJV)**

"Who has a greater combat than he that labors to overcome himself?" Thomas 'A Kempis

- F. *Note this is the Spirit's Work -*

²² **"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." ' ' Revelation 3:14–22 (NKJV)**

4. *The Spirit of Truth makes the REALITY of our sinful hearts REAL to us –*

⁸ **And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: ⁹ of sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; ¹¹ of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. John 16:8–11 (NKJV)**

- A. *Convicts ἐλέγξει, elegxei - expose, reprove, convict means He makes us feel GUILT*

- B. *Judgment means we know judgment, wrath is coming from God!*

- C. *As the Spirit of Truth, He teaches us the REALITY of these things –*

¹³ **However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;...John 16:13 (NKJV)**

5. *Knowing the TRUTH about our sin, helps us to embrace the truth about Jesus Christ as our Savior - He will testify of Me. John 15:26 B*

Ray Comfort has a good illustration of this, imagine you are on an airplane and the person sitting next to you offers you the choice of three things, you may only choose one: (1) A tasty hamburger (2) a million dollars (3) a parachute ... which do you choose?

Now, which do you choose if the airplane is going to crash??? Jesus our Savior is our Parachute!

6. *When Jesus talks of certain blessedness it is because people realize the TRUTH about sin*

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³ **“Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.**
Matthew 5:3–6 (NKJV)

- V. *The Spirit of Truth helps us to know truth, to embrace truth and to proclaim truth –*

²⁷ **And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.**
John 15:26–27 (NKJV) See also Acts 1:8

1. *The Greek word for bear witness is μαρτυρέω martyreo ---we get our English word martyr from it.*
2. *It is hard to faithfully proclaim this truth because people don't like it, the Apostles, all but John died for this truth, Peter was crucified upside down!*
3. *Popular preachers often grow their churches BIG, in number by AVOIDING TRUTH –*

¹³ **“Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, Everyone is given to covetousness; And from the prophet even to the priest, Everyone deals falsely. ¹⁴ They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, Saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ When there is no peace.**
Jeremiah 6:13–14 (NKJV)

4. *God is sovereign over our situations, part of faith is believing this and preaching truth, though doing that means a smaller church, less popularity and maybe persecution and martyrdom! We have the Spirit of Truth, we battle a spirit of LIES –*

¹⁹ Then *Micaiah* said, “Therefore hear the word of the LORD: I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left. ²⁰ And the LORD said, ‘Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?’ So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. ²¹ Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, ‘I will persuade him.’ ²² The LORD said to him, ‘In what way?’ So he said, ‘I will go out and be a **lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.**’ And the LORD said, ‘You shall persuade *him*, and also prevail. Go out and do so.’ ²³ Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you.” ²⁴ Now Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah went near and struck *Micaiah* on the cheek, and said, “Which way did the spirit from the LORD go from me to speak to you?” ²⁵ And *Micaiah* said, “Indeed, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide!” ²⁶ So the king of Israel said, “Take *Micaiah*, and return him to Amon the governor of the city and to Joash the king’s son; ²⁷ and say, ‘Thus says the king: “Put this *fellow* in prison, and feed him with bread of affliction and water of affliction, until I come in peace.” ’ ” ²⁸ But *Micaiah* said, “If you ever return in peace, the LORD has not spoken by me.” And he said, “Take heed, all you people!” 1 Kings 22:19–28 (NKJV)
Ahab did not return in peace – 1 Kings 22:29-40 especially verses :34-38