

Bible Study #12

12/7/21

John 14

- In this section, John provides **five sayings about the Holy Spirit**
- **John 14:16** *“And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, to be with you for ever”*
 - *John 14:16-17*
 - *John 14:26*
 - *John 15:26*
 - *John 16:7-8*
 - *John 16:13*
 - Jesus promised the *Paraclete*, the *Counselor* who is coming, and after He leaves will come, and take care of things

John 14 (Cont)

- **John 14:25** *“These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you”*
 - Here, Jesus tells His disciples that the *paraclete* is coming who will remind them of everything He has told them
 - Today, people ask how do we know that the traditions of the church (from the Apostles) are uncorrupted? (Have you ever played the phone game?)
 - This means that we are not talking about human memory here, but of the power of the Holy Spirit
 - If the gospel message had been corrupted, we would not have the Bible today

John 14 (Cont)

- But, part of their incorruption was the fact that these scriptures were copied over and over by monks
- Father said that if we relied only on human power, human memory, and human writings, then the entire thing would have fallen apart
- That is why we must rely upon and trust in the Holy Spirit to have passed down what Jesus said that He would do (which was to preserve the message until He comes again)
- Father did not discuss **John 15** or **16**

John 17

John 17

- **John 17** contains the “*High Priestly Prayer*” of Jesus at the Last Supper
- In this passage (**John 17:11**), Jesus prayed that His disciples would be one (united with Him) as the Father and He were one
- Thus, Jesus was praying for unity within the church
- This means that anyone preaching for a schism will be in big trouble on the Day of Judgment

John 17 (Cont)

- **John 17:20** *“I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through the word”*
 - Once again, He did not say through “signs” or “works”
 - Later, Jesus will bless *Thomas* for believing after seeing Him, but then those will be blessed who have believed but not seen
 - This is why we believe in His resurrection because we have heard the word passed down by the Holy Spirit for 2000 years
 - We also see here some anti-dualism ideas saying that He does not want them to be of the world, but that they are not taken from the world

John 17 (Cont)

- The dualists wanted to escape from the world, but even though Jesus told them that He will be leaving for awhile, He came back again at a later date
- His disciples were not to be of the world until He returns, but they were to live in the world
- Right after finishing the Last Supper Jesus and His disciples left the *Upper Room* and went to the *Garden of Gethsemane*

John 18

John 18

- **John 18:1-5** *“When Jesus had spoken these words, he went forth with his disciples across the Kidron valley,...Judas, who betrayed him, was standing with them”*
 - Jesus went to the *Garden of Gethsemane* where a little while later a crowd arrived to arrest Him
 - When He was called out, He responded in English, “I am he” But, in Greek, He spoke the Holy name **“Ego eimi”**
 - This caused the crowd to draw back and fall to the ground!
 - In John 17, Jesus revealed the holy name of God with the Apostles, and told them that He was the presence of God among them
 - This led to the Jews taking Jesus captive

John 18 (Cont)

- Father pointed out that this part of John's Gospel was very similar to the description of the Passion in the Synoptic gospels
- Jesus was taken captive
- We will hear the threefold denial by Peter
- John describes a charcoal fire here and at the end of his gospel
- John describes Jesus going before both High Priests (*Annas*, the real High Priest and *Caiaphas*, the High Priest appointed by the Romans)

John 18 (Cont)

- **John 18:28** *“Then they led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the praetorian...might eat the Passover”*
 - Father asked, “Had they not already celebrated the Passover at the Last Supper?”
 - **John 13** states that it was before the Passover feast that Jesus washed the feet of His disciples
 - But, here, it says that the Jews did not want to enter the Gentile Praetorium to avoid being unclean for the Passover
 - Father explained that this was a 1st century calendar issue as they had both a lunar and a solar calendar in use

John 18 (Cont)

- The old traditional calendar of *Moses* was a lunar calendar which contained twelve 30 day months causing a problem every couple of years (requiring the need for a 13th month)
- The solar calendar was a bit more precise, but God had not prescribed the use of this calendar to them
- In fact, they picked up this practice during the Babylonian captivity
- This meant that in the post-exilic period, the Jews had two ways of calculating time
- Among the different groups, some used the lunar calendar and others the solar calendar (we have a similar problem in Christianity with some using the Julian calendar and others using the more recent Gregorian calendar which led to the conflict over the date for Easter)

John 18 (Cont)

- Most likely (according to John), the Jews were using both calendars to determine the date of the Passover
- This means that the Passover fell on Tuesday night for the *Essenes* and Friday night for the *Sadducees*
- This means that Jesus (according to John) appeared to celebrate the Passover meal at the Last Supper on Tuesday night (according to the Synoptics) within the Essene quarter of Jerusalem
- This would have been according to the lunar calendar which was the calendar of Moses (Jesus always fulfilled the Law perfectly)

John 18 (Cont)

- The Feast of the *Passover* that was celebrated in the temple would have fallen on Friday evening enabling Jesus to fulfill both as He was to die at the hand of the Jews (like the Passover lamb) on the eve of the Passover
- Father said that there are many commentaries dealing with the Passover controversy