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The Legacy of Jesus

Jeff Rogers / Empty Nesters

John 14:16-31

As people grow older, their mortality looms larger and becomes more real. What was once a far away consideration, now becomes a top-of-mind awareness. The clock ticks ever louder as the calendar rolls on. It is natural for us to spend time considering how we will be remembered and what (assets, traditions, memories, etc.) we will leave behind. The Bible speaks to and assumes that you and I will leave an inheritance (Proverbs 13:22, 17:2; 19:14; 20:21, Matthew 21:38; Luke 12:13; 15:11-12). However, it also speaks of a far greater inheritance. It is the inheritance God has for every child in His family (1 Peter 1:4; Ephesians 1:11, 18; esp. 18).

The incorruptible inheritance the believer is to receive is from the Trinity. Notice:

- From the Father: **Colossians 1:12**, *Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.*
- From the Son: **Romans 8:17**, *And if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. **Colossians 3:24**, *Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.**
- From the Spirit: **Ephesians 1:13–14**, *In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14** who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.*

But this inheritance is not just for the life to come. God provides a foretaste of these rich blessings for His children in this life. On the night before His death, our Lord revealed those blessings to His disciples, who were in great need of comfort and encouragement.

I. The Presence of the Spirit

- **John 14:16–17**, *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, **17** even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*
 - A. The Spirit is the Helper (*Paraklētos*) – The Helper literally means “one called alongside to help.” The connotation is of a helper, comforter, counselor, exhorter, intercessor, encourager, and advocate (defense attorney)
 - B. The Spirit is *Allos* (another). This refers specifically to another of the same kind
 1. Usage of *allos* in other areas:
 - a) In the parables of Jesus (Matthew 13:24, 31, 33) each succeeding parable is called “another” (*allos*) in the same category (they are all parables about the nature of the kingdom).
 - b) In Mark 4:36, *allos* describes “other” boats of a similar style.
 - c) In John 18:15-16, “another” disciple (the apostle John), who was of the same group as Peter.
 2. In English there is only one word for “another.” In Greek there are two: *allos* and *heteros*. *Heteros* describes another thing of a completely different nature. Such as “another king” in Acts 7:18. Or, “another gospel” in Galatians 1:6-7. (That false gospel was not another (*allos*) of the same kind, but different (*heteros*) since there is only one true gospel.
 3. Jesus said He would send another (*allos*) Helper exactly like Himself!
 - a) He is our advocate (*paraklētos*) (1 John 2:1)
 - b) He is our teacher (John 14:26)
 - c) He is our strength (Ephesians 3:16)
 - d) He is our intercessor (Romans 8:26)
 4. The differentiation of the Spirit’s ministry in the Old and New Covenants. {PLACEHOLDER}

II. The Presence of the Son

- **John 14:18–20**, *"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. 20 In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you."*
 - A. You will not be orphans (John 14:18)
 - B. You will see me (John 14:19)
 - C. You will see our union (John 14:20)
 - 1. **John 15:5**, *I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*
 - 2. **1 Corinthians 12:27**, *Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.*
 - 3. **1 Peter 2:4–6**, *As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."*
 - 4. **Ephesians 5:22–24**, *Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.*
 - 5. **Romans 8:1**, *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.*

III. The Presence of the Father

- **John 14:21–24**, *Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him." 22 Judas (not Iscariot) said to him, "Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?" 23 Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. 24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me."*
 - A. Obedience to Christ's commandments is the hallmark evidence of a believer's union with Christ (John 14:21)
 - B. Only the obedient will be citizens of the Kingdom of God.

IV. The Presence of the Truth

- **John 14:25–26**, *"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."*
 - A. The Father's words (*these things*; **John 14:24**) were continually delivered while Jesus was with His disciples.
 - B. The Spirit of truth (**John 14:17**) would be sent.
 - 1. Truth, and ultimately God Himself, are only known by the Spirit (**1 Cor 1:21**, *For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe.*) The world could not discover God by its own corrupted intellect.
 - 2. Mankind (all of us) is by seeking, yet not finding soul satisfaction (**2 Tim 3:7**, *Always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.*) Peace & knowledge come through salvation (**1 Tim 2:4**)
 - C. The Spirit is our "in-house" truth Teacher.
 - 1. **1 John 2:20**, *But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.*
 - 2. **1 John 2:27**, *But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him.* (There are two teachers – a teacher, and the Teacher)

V. The Presence of Peace (John 14:27-31)

- **John 14:27**, *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.*
 - A. It is estimated that in 5,500 years more than 8,000 peace treaties have been broken, and more than 14,000 wars fought with more than 4 billion casualties. Peace in this world is, at best, an elusive goal in this world.
 - B. Not only is peace in the world difficult, personal peace is a sought after prize