



Part 3: God's Presence for Truth

John 16:5-16

We need the Holy Spirit of truth, because there is a father of lies committed to our destruction.

I. Contested Space

"...behind the collapse of trust in American society is a collapse of truth, the very possibility of truth." John Stonestreet & Shane Morris, "We're All Postmodernists Now," Breakpoint Daily (May 2, 2022)

II. Jesus and the Holy Spirit

- A. Jesus promises the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-21; 16:5-16).

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor [*paraclete*] to be with you forever – the Spirit of truth...I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you." John 14:16-18

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth." John 16:13

- B. The Holy Spirit always glorifies Jesus Christ (John 16:14).

"He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you." John 16:14-15

All spiritual experience is not Christian or safe. John tells us to "test the spirits" (1 John 4:1).

“... do not believe every spirit but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” 1 John 4:1

- C. The Holy Spirit enables us to experience intimacy with Jesus and the Father (John 14:18; 16:14-15).

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.”
John 14:18

“He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.” John 16:14-15

“No longer is the Holy Spirit encountered as naked power; he is clothed with the personality and character of Jesus.” Michael Green

III. The Spirit of Truth in a World of Lies

- A. Satan is the Father of Lies and Prince of this World (John 8:44; 12:31; 14:30; 16:11).

“The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy; I have come that you might have life to the full.” John 10:10

“Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.” John 8:43-44

- B. We live in contested space spiritually where there is a constant spiritual disinformation campaign.



“...our fight with the devil is first and foremost a fight to take back control of our minds from their captivity

to lies and liberate them with the weapon of truth.”
John Mark Comer, *Live No Lies*, p. 7

C. The Holy Spirit is God’s prosecutor (John 16:8-11).

“When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment...”
John 16:8

All cultures, in both their secular and religious dimensions, have ideas about right and wrong. The Holy Spirit will act as God’s prosecutor revealing our sin, unrighteousness and need of a Savior from God’s coming judgment.

IV. The Way of Jesus

“He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is mine and make it known to you.” John 16:14-15

- A. In community we are committed to Jesus Christ and his Way as revealed in the Bible as God’s Word (as opposed to popular ideas or other spiritualities).
- B. In community we are committed to reading, studying, memorizing, and praying God’s Word as our ultimate standard of truth (Ephesians 6:10-18).
- C. Pray for more of the Holy Spirit’s wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-22).

Recommended reading: *Live No Lies* by John Mark Comer.

Discussion Questions:

1. Read John 14:15-17 and 16:5-15. What are the implications of the fact that Jesus calls the Holy Spirit the “Spirit of truth”?
2. Read John 8:42-44. What are the implications of the fact that Jesus calls Satan the “father of lies” and the “prince of this world” (John 16:11)?
3. Read Ephesians 6:10-18. How does Paul refer to “truth”? How does Paul refer to the “Spirit”? What are the implications?
4. How do you fight Satan’s “disinformation campaign”? What is your practice of reading, studying, meditating, and praying Scripture?