

Gamma – Gospel of John

Book	Gospel of John
Topic	The Holy Spirit
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It starts from the 15 because the 15 also starts with the Holy Spirit and it tells you

*John 15:26-27 (ESV) But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear **witness about me**. 27 **And you also will bear witness**, because you have been with me from the beginning.*

So the role of the Holy Spirit is basically the spirit of truth, to tell people about the truth and the truth is not just merely the truth, the truth is always about Jesus, that Jesus comes from God. So whenever John writes the truth, what he means actually is the gospel which means Jesus comes from God that's the most important truth you ever have to know in your whole life.

*Acts 1:8 (ESV) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be **my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

Same thing, if you know the truth then you can be a witness to the truth, if you don't know the truth, you cannot be a witness to the truth and the context is persecution. He tells them they are going to be persecuted.

John 16:4-6 (ESV) I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

This means he is talking about his crucifixion, which is going to happen by the next chapter.

FUNCTION OF THE SPIRIT:

There are a lot of abuses of the doctrine of the Holy Spirit, a lot of things that come out of that. We have new apostolic movement; they have decided that they are new apostles in the world today or in doubt with the power of the Holy Spirit. Their doctrine is to reclaim 7 mountains, business, government, family, religion, media, education and entertainment, in

fact two of them went to visit the governor Rick Perry of Texas and told him that God has spoken to them. They laid hands and prayed on him that Texas would be the leading state of the United States if they follow all their instructions, God has given them specific instructions, and if they didn't there will be economic disasters on Texas, there would be terrorism and all sorts of things. This is actually happening when people take the power.

Alice Patterson wrote 'Bridging the Racial and Political Divide', she had a vision in that same meeting and she saw a vision of Jazebel. When Jazebel lifted her skirt you saw Baal Asherah and all the demons. This is happening in the world today; people are believing all this stuff.

Lee Grady is editor of the Charisma Magazine; it is the #1 magazine for charismatics. He writes 5 ways we quench the Holy Spirit, he says

- Ignore the Holy Spirit
- We limit the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- We misuse or abuse the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- We misrepresent the Holy Spirit
- We divide the Holy Spirit

This is the important background to the New Covenant,

*Ezekiel 36:26-27 (ESV) And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will **remove the heart of stone** from your flesh and give you a **heart of flesh**. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

So there are basically two functions of the Holy Spirit, you talk about all this prophecy, you talk about all this special revelation. When the Holy Spirit is promised in the Old Testament there are only two functions. When the Holy Spirit comes it is going to melt that heart of stone and change that heart into flesh. The second function is godly living. Most charismatic churches won't talk about these two functions that is the problem.

John 16 is a crucial chapter about the Holy Spirit and lets see whether there is a parallel.

*John 16:8-15 (ESV) And when he comes, he will convict the **world** concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: **9** concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; **10** concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; **11** concerning judgment, because the ruler of this **world** is judged. **12** "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. **13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide **you** into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **14** He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to **you**. **15** All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to **you**.*

There are two sections, one is the heart of stone which is going to turn to flesh, because it will convict you of sin, righteousness and judgment. So your stone heart will melt. Number 2, spirit of truth will guide you in all truth and he will glorify Jesus. When Jesus is so glorified, people will follow him, so is godly living. So this is how it is going to be achieved.

John 16:8-11 (ESV) And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment

Convict means shame, convince, calling to repentance regarding sin, righteousness and judgment. There are three items here, sin, righteousness and judgment. The second part is the reason for the item.

*concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; **10** concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; **11** concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.*

The concept of sin is quite nebulous. A lot of people don't believe they are sinners. They think that if you are really bad like Mohammad Gadhafi, you are sinner, if you are otherwise okay. There are a lot of good people around, Buddhist monks, very devout religious people of other religions, they have best exemplary behavior, they give their lives for the poor, they sacrifice but Jesus is saying, concerning sin because they don't believe in me that's the sin. The biggest sin that we do is to ignore Jesus Christ. So when you actually bring the gospel to friends, it is not the moral living we are looking at. We are actually looking at whether you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ who comes and dies for you. Now there is a session in Hebrews which talks about some Christians going away from God

*Hebrews 6:4-6 (ESV) For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, **5** and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, **6** and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt*

This is meant for Christians who backslide that means they are crucifying Jesus all over again, because the sin is actually against Jesus Christ, that's the sin. Korean Revival in 1907, after that almost 30% of the Korean nation are Christians and this read how it started,

He came to us in Pyongyang that night with the sound of weeping. As the prayer continued, a spirit of heaviness and sorrow for sin came down upon the audience. Over on one side, someone began to weep, and in a moment the whole audience was weeping. Man after man would rise, confess his sins, break down and weep, and then throw himself to the floor and beat the floor with his fists in perfect agony of conviction. My own cook tried to make a confession, broke down in the midst of it, and cried to me across the room: "Pastor, tell me, is

there any hope for me, can I be forgiven?" and then threw himself to the floor and wept and wept, and almost screamed in agony.

Sometimes after a confession, the whole audience would break out in audible prayer, and the effect of that audience of hundreds of men praying together in audible prayer was something indescribable. Again, after another confession, they would break out in uncontrollable weeping, and we would all weep, we could not help it. And so the meeting went on until two o'clock a.m., with confession and weeping and praying

This is the work of the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit does conviction of sin. You can't have a meeting where people accept Christ and hold him as king and jumping up and down but there is no emotion, there is no conviction of a deep sin, there are no tears, there is no feeling of being devastated that kind of conversion is suspect, because when the Holy Spirit comes it does three things; conviction of sin, righteousness and judgment, you have to have that.

Holy spirit convicts us of the true nature of our moral and religious righteousness

*John 16:10 (ESV) concerning **righteousness**, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;*

Here you have the garden of Eden, when man and woman sin, the first thing they did is hide from God and they covered themselves with fig leaves because they realized that they were naked, they are not so perfect anymore. This is actually symbolic because all of us ever since the time is covering ourselves with fig leaves and the fig leaves are metaphorical for our own righteousness but the righteousness that you put on...

*Isaiah 64:5-6 (ESV) You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? **6 We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.***

So this fig leaves that we put on selves in society today were the religious fig leaves, secular fig leaves, psychological fig leaves, this is how society deals with righteousness. Religious righteousness at the time of the Jews, work base, compliance of letter law, moral behavior. In John 5 Jesus healed a lame man, they were so righteousness they were upset because it was done on a Sabbath day. The fact that the guy was healed they were blind to that; what kind of righteousness is that? They worship God, they follow the law but they plot to murder Jesus, how does that work out. Jesus healed the blind man but they refused to listen to the blind man, even his parents testified that he was born blind. So their righteousness so blinds them that they cannot see Jesus at all. Some of them actually believed in Jesus but refused to profess Jesus because they were afraid of being excommunicated. This is the righteousness of the Jews.

The whole idea is that you can think that you are a religious person, but we can justify doing evil things. Catholic church in an Australian sex abuse report published last year concluded

- 15,000 people contacted the commission on sex abuse
- 2500 cases referred to police
- Greatest number of alleged abuse perpetrators were found in Catholic institutions
- 7% of priests who worked in Australia between 1950 and 2009 had been accused of child sex abuse.

They are the most righteous people and yet their righteousness is a massacre that we hide under

MORAL SECULAR RIGHTEOUSNESS:

I am a good family man, I don't drink or sleep with girls, so therefore you set your own standards, God's standard is there but you don't care you put your own standard. If I don't sleep with girls or drink or smoke I am okay, I cheat on taxes it is okay. I care about the poor, I give my money and that is good because any other bad thing I do negates that. So we decide on our own standard and I am hardworking. If I am hardworking all my sins are forgiven that's what moral secular righteousness is.

PSYCHOLOGICAL RIGHTEOUSNESS.

This is when you are so wrong that you've got to up defenses. For example, Donald Trump deny everything. He has never said yes to anything, so that protects him, so that is his righteousness. Accept yourself however bad you are, just be honest and free. He is very honest, so he tweets everything he feels, even though they are bad things.

Shifting blame, blame society or blame your wife. Unwed mothers, a study shows that a lot of them actually blame their parents. That's why we are unwed, we like to blame.

Group therapy in psychological circles now, the aim of group therapy is to eliminate guilt. It is not to eliminate sin, because guilt is a very uncomfortable feeling this is what society is moving to. If you look at them,

- "Don't be afraid to be yourself."
- "Be honest about yourself. If this is the kind of person you are, just accept yourself"
- "This can be a growthful experience, a learning experience."
- "You need to improve your self-image."

It is all about self. The whole idea in psychology is to make you feel good that's what we do with sin. The Holy Spirit though show sin in our lives. When the light of the Holy Spirit comes in, it highlights the sin. We try to minimize sin by pretending, that means we lower God standards. It means if I am like this, God standard, I better lower it so that we can achieve God's standard or you perform, you earn God's approval, job righteousness, family righteousness and etc.

CONVICTION OF JUDGMENT

The world's ruler which is Satan is judged, is a continuing process. So therefore if you convict a person that he is sinful that all the righteous good things that he does are useless and he is in the wrong ship because his ship is sinking, the thing is good but it is actually sinking. If you convict them of three things then they will genuinely repent, this is work of the Spirit. So therefore turning the heart of stone into flesh.

The second one is godly living, which is basically telling them the truth and glorifying Jesus. There are two functions of the Holy Spirit here.

*John 14:25-26 (ESV) 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.***

*John 15:26-27 (ESV) But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear **witness about me.** 27 And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.*

*John 16:12-13 (ESV) I **still have many things** to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you **into all the truth**, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.*

So He is going to guide you in all the truth, which is the singular body of truth, a doctrine that you cannot run away from. So the first thing is to tell you about the truth, the singular doctrine, which means he will guide you, just like when you go to a museum. The Holy Spirit is like a guide, it is a person that comes in, he guides you into all the truth.

Distortion is like that Reverend Moon who added himself to the gospel. Distortion is like the Mormons who says God was once a man. We have Christian distortions, for example liberals will take away the resurrection, they take away the virgin birth, they take away the cross and then there is nothing left. We have conservative Christians, which think it is not enough to believe in Jesus you must come every single Sunday to church. On top of Ten Commandments they have 1500 commandments of their too. That's because there are conservative distortions. The Holy Spirit will guide you into the body of truth.

Reformation was led by Martin Luther who couldn't take this issue of indulgences, the catholic church was selling salvation, selling with lots of money, the pope will just issue all these indulgences, people will buy them, they spend less time in purgatory or they don't go to hell at all and he was very upset and what he did was, at his university he hammered out 95 theses all based on the word of God that a man shall live by faith and faith alone. So that's the body of truth the Holy Spirit guided him in.

Martin Luther was a racist. *He argued that Jewish synagogues, schools and homes should be set on fire, that Jews should have their assets confiscated and that they should be used as forced labour and expelled*

Same book was used few hundred years later on by the Nazis at Nuremberg in 1938, because Jews are horrible people, so therefore they wound up with the justification of the holocaust. The things that you write can have such effects generations down but this is a good man. This is a man who is responsible for the Baptist church, but then evangelical Lutheran Church of Bavaria wrote in November 1998, they wrote this statement

"It is imperative for the Lutheran Church, which knows itself to be indebted to the work and tradition of Martin Luther, to take seriously also his anti-Jewish utterances, to acknowledge their theological function, and to reflect on their consequences. It has to distance itself from every [expression of] anti Judaism in Lutheran theology.

So the Lutheran church is able to separate itself from the wrongs in Luther's life and focus on the truth. That's what the Holy Spirit does, it focuses on the truth. The reformation 500-year anniversary, the catholic church in Germany also apologized. They apologized for the persecution of the protestants and the wrong theology they went on and the Anglican church of England apologize to the Catholics because they persecuted the Catholics, but they took later on for the apology to come, but the truth is still held by the Holy Spirit. The truth will come out eventually, you cannot hide the truth as it were.

The Holy Spirit not only preserve the body of doctrine that passes down to us, it will also glorify Jesus.

*14 He will **glorify me**, for he will take what is mine and **declare it to you**. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and **declare it to you**.*

There are some problems with the Pentecostal movement. An ex-Pentecostal wrote

In each case they were thrust upon us as the "sovereign movement of the Spirit" as a way to receive the power of the Holy Spirit. In achieving these experiences, we were exhorted to "yield to the Spirit" "release the Spirit's power in us" "feel His presence and anointing power moving upon us" "hear His voice anew and afresh" Jesus was pushed into the background as we tried

to have an "experience" of the Spirit. We were being urged to be Spirit centered instead of Jesus centeredWe were told that if we could get to a state of Spirit fullness we would have supernatural power

That is the abuse of the charismatic movement, an overemphasis on the spirit. The function of the spirit is to convict of sin and the second function is to glorify Jesus, the Holy Spirit doesn't glorify itself,

*1 John 4:1-3 (ESV) Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. 2 By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that **Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, 3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.*

The acid test is Jesus, it is always Jesus, any spirit that does not glorify Jesus is not the Holy Spirit,

*Romans 5:5-8 (ESV) and hope does not put us to shame, because **God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit** who has been given to us.*

We feel God's love by the Holy Spirit.

*2 Corinthians 3:18 (ESV) And we all, with unveiled face, **beholding the glory of the Lord**, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is **the Spirit**.*

It means that when we see how beautiful Jesus is, it is a progression, the more you look the more you change and this change come from the Lord who is the spirit. So the Holy Spirit's function is to make you look at Jesus and become like him, so it creates an awareness in your heart, it creates a desire in your heart, it makes Jesus look so great.

SPIRITS POWER

*Ephesians 3:16-19 (ESV) he may grant you to be **strengthened with power** through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 **so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to **know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge**, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

We can only do that if the Holy Spirit strengthens you from inside and Christ controls your heart and you are rooted and grounded, which means you are so struck by Jesus glory.

When we are so inmate by the enormous blood of Jesus Christ, then he controls our hearts and then we are filled with that fullness of God. So the love of God will make the love so real that whether you are homeless, jobless, you have difficulty in life, you will feel his love and care. The glory of God is going to be so great, it overwhelms materialism, greed and selfishness, all that even though you are in business. When you are in contact with Jesus Christ, the more Jesus looks great to you, the less these things are going to matter. Power of God will overwhelm fear, anxiety and weakness.

The Holy Spirit takes all these concepts of the love of God, grace of God, wisdom of God, power of God and it creates heartfelt realities, it becomes real in your life. You've read about somebody very nice, you've read about somebody very powerful, but the Holy Spirit takes that somebody and ministers directly to your heart. So the second part is that, I will put my spirit within you and cause you to walk in my statues and be careful to obey my rules.

How does seeing the glory of Jesus cause godly behavior?

When you are contemplating Godly behavior you do it because you are convinced of the value and you want to please God or you are not convinced of the value. Two things, you can either say, never mind you can do a little cheating here, which means you are actually not convinced of integrity, you don't value it. So therefore you sin and you lie and do whatever but if you actually follow godly behavior, it is because you are convinced of the value and you want to please God or you can fear God, expect reward or I am proud. These are all the wrong reasons, fear, expectation of reward and pride, what you should be doing is convinced of the value. So therefore if you see Jesus of increasing value in your life then you want to please the person more. So that's how you actually have godly living.

Matthew 13:45-46 (ESV) Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, 46 who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

You can only do that if you follow this verse, on finding one pearl of great value. They actually find so much value in Jesus Christ that sacrificing these small worldly possessions really doesn't matter anymore to them and all of us are in that walk. We are now looking at Jesus and every day we look at Jesus we want to be more like him and he seems more valuable every day and the more valuable he seems then it is more likely that you are going to seek for him that's the difference, it is a gradual process. So therefore, you will sell all of that and become that.

So the spirit grows the cross. When the Holy Spirit comes, it will highlight the truth and truth will tell you that who Jesus is, how beautiful he is, how powerful he is, how wise he is, how gracious he is and how welcoming he is and on the other hand it will also tell you about your sin, every aspect of your life, even your righteousness is like sin and the more

this goes down and the more that goes up then the power of the cross becomes greater and greater and greater and that is how you go for godly living. That's how human beings are created.

If you take a gun and point it to somebody's head and tell him you must do this, because the gun will blow your head off, yeah he will do it, but it won't come from the heart. Human beings are thinking people, so what you have to do is to take the truth, ponder upon the truth of the word of God, meditate upon it day and night and the Holy Spirit will then change that truth into a reality in your heart and when that happens then you will drop everything else and you only run after the person that really matters and is Jesus Christ. That's what the Holy Spirit does. The Holy Spirit takes up Jesus and makes him beautiful in your eyes, otherwise if you don't do that in situation where this is flesh. When the flesh comes and blocks you here, you are stagnant in your awareness of Jesus glory, you are stagnant in awareness of your sinful flesh and you compensate by your own self-righteousness.

Nobody gets late to airport but people gets late in church, because God is not going to take off without you, that's a fact. We are stagnant in our awareness of the glory of Jesus. We think we are pretty good, so therefore the value of the cross decreases and then the life doesn't change, you do not become more godly, because you are stifling the Holy Spirit, because you are refusing to allow the word of God to come in and only way the word of God comes in is either sermon on Sunday or come into Gamma. I would hope that later on the more Gamma you get in and the more word of God Jesus suddenly becomes beautiful and blows your mind and because it blows your mind that's why you are here.