

**Jesus Sends the Life-Changing Spirit**

- It's been 50 days since J rose; 10 asc. Jrslm packed Jewish visitors world; come annual harvest celbrtn, Fest Wks, aka Pent. Last few days, J's discs been hunkered down, keeping to selves. All that changes today. Loud sound rushing wind, tornado; tongues fire settle heads discs; filled with HS; begin preaching to all ppl in Jrslm, in diff langs, re JC, Son God. And by end day, 3k baptizd into Xp.
- We commrt Pent ev yr, not just bec great day for Ch, but really beg of Ch. Some call Pent: b-day of Xian Ch or beg of NT Era – this time when HS is actively at work, using Xian Gos to change ppl's lives, bring faith in Xp. And J himself begins this NT Era on Pent, when (as see today): J sends LCS.
- J told discs several times send HS. In Jn 14, **"The Advct, the HS, whom the Fr will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of evrthng I have said to you"** (26). In Jn 15, **"When the Advct comes, whom I will send to you from the Fr – the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Fr – he will testify re me"** (26). And here in Jn 16, vs. 7b. So, sev times J promises send discs HS. Notice, calls Advct. Older transltns used word: Counsellor, Comforter, Helper. Basically means: someone stands by, stands up for, speaks up for, even in legal sense, like attorney courtroom. HS is there to help us in time of need.
- Discs: in time need. Today's Gos takes place MT eve. J addressing discs for last time before facing cross; speaking re suff/dying, re leaving/returning to Fr; says I'm not with you much longer. This really distressing for discs. They're filled w/grief, bec want J stay forever. But J assures them: his going away is good thing. Listen J: vs. 5-7. When J "goes away" (which btw: means more than just ascndng into hvn; also means going cross, sufferng/dyng, risng fr dead, forgivng sins, acmplshng salv – that's all wrapped up in what J means: going away; why good thing – our salv depends on J going away!). Anyway, when J goes away, he's going send his Spirit to his ppl, to be their Advct/Helper. And we see that today, on Pent, as J sends LCS.
- So what is the work of this LCS that J sends us? How change our lives? Main job of HS is change ppl fr unbelief to faith in Xp. Every Xian in wrld (incl you) has been changed by HS. By nature, we born in sin/unbelief; in our hrts we reject God – until HS changes us. Works faith in hrts, thru MofG: Gos in W&S. He changes us into Xians. And once done that, keeps changing us: 1, by makng faith stronger; and 2, by makng behavior more Xp-like. That's work of HS. And if you remem from studyng Cat, term we use for this: sanctfctn – means you're set apart, diff, changed. Think like this: over here, whole mass of ppl, unbels, non-Xians; and this where you start out. But HS plucks you out, places over here in HCC, Com Snts, where now you bel in J, love J. What a change! That's what hapd to 3k ppl on Day Pent. And if you are Xian today, that's what HS's done for you, as well! Changed your life, brought you to faith. What a change!
- But lot of life-chngng work yet to be done out there! World filled w/ppl who disregard J, reject Xian msg. So HS uses L&G. W/Gos, points ppl to J. But w/Law, points out where ppl wrong in thinking. Listen carefully: vs. 8-11. HS shows world where they're wrong on these 3 subjects. Now, this is a pretty deep section. So let's take piece/piece, try understand what J saying here.
- First, vs. 8a, 9. What world think re sin? World considers most heinous crimes: sin – murder, theft, child abuse – those sins. But what world doesn't undrstnd: greatest sin is actly unbelief. Not believing in J as Sav is what gets you into hell – that's greatest sin. World thinks that what you bel is just own personal choice, spiritual opinion; evryone can have own opinion. But HS wants change that wrong thinkng so evryone undrstnds: lot sins out there, but greatest: rejecting J. Why J says: vs. 8a, 9.
- Also says: vs. 8a, 10. What world think re rghtns? World thinks, when: do good things, good person, upstanding citizen, don't get trouble with law – that's what makes you "rghts." But again, if don't bel in J, none those things matter. Worldly "rghtns" not going get you into hvn. Scripture teaches 2 kinds rghtns: you do & God gives you. Rghtns you do can involve lot wondrfl/hlpfl things for world; but it'll never be enough impress God, bec God's standard for rghtsns is perfectn – none us perfect; we

all sin every day. Other kind rightsns: that God gives you; that Xp earned by sinless life, innent death; by his “going away.” Remem, when J says **vs. 10ab**, means: I’m going to suff/die for you to earn your salv and give you my rightsns. In Rom, Ap Paul talks very same thing: **“For in the Gos a rightsns from God is revealed, a rightsns that is by faith” (1:17)**. That’s ch 1; ch 3: **“But now a rightsns from God, apart from law, has been made known...This rightsns from God comes thru faith in JC to all who believe” (3:21-22, NIV 84)**. So here’s point: true rightsns doesn’t come from inside you; it comes from outside you, from Xp, who gives it to you by grace, so that you simply belv it by faith. World wants prove its own rightsns, earn own salv. But HS wants change that wrong thinking so evryone undrstnds: our salv/rightns come only thru faith in Xp.

- Finally, **vs. 8a, 11**. Again, what world think re jdgmnt? I think world doesn’t like think re jdgmnt or J-Day – scary thought. World rather see J as just kind, nice, teacher, loves everyone. But it doesn’t want think of J judging ppl, condmning them to hell. Maybe really bad ppl: A. Hitler, S. Hussein; but not reg ole folks (Burl folks) who just don’t hapn be Xian. But on Last Day, J will: judg livng/dead; separate sheep/goats, bels/unbels; and sentence unbels to hell, just like sentenced Satan, **vs. 11**. Yes, J is world’s Sav; also world’s Judge. J-Day is real; and HS wants change ppl’s wrong thinking re J-Day, so prepare for it by trusting in Xp – that’s what he wants!
- Sin, rightsns, jdgmnt – I know, deep stuff! So let’s just summarize it this way: world has wrong theology; it thinks it doesn’t need J. So HS wants to change that wrong thinking and correct it. God wants everyone be saved and bel in J as Sav. So he sends HS, Advct, LCS, who changes us: from unbelief to faith; from weak faith to strong faith; from false doctrine to correct theology. On that 1<sup>st</sup> Pent, changed 3k ppl. Since that day he’s changed billions more, incl you/me. And only God know how many more hrts HS will change this side of hvn. We pray it’d be billions more. But today as we celebrate life-changing work of HS in world, we also praise him for his life-changing work right here, in our own hrts. He’s brought us to faith, brought us to J; he’s changed us. He’s LCS.

### John 16:5-11

<sup>5</sup> Now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup> Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. <sup>7</sup> But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: <sup>9</sup> about sin, because people do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup> about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; <sup>11</sup> and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.