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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

Hebrews 10:11-25
Lesson #23
The Paraclete
06/16/2024

context, context, context
(Old Covenant vs. New Covenant)



Old Testament - Gospels
Old Covenant

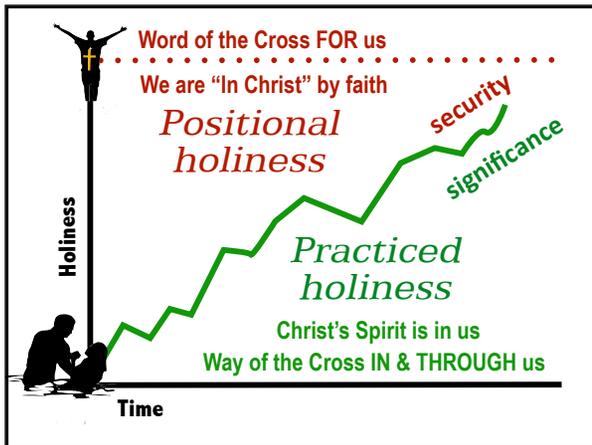
New Covenant
 Acts - Epistles

John 1:17
 "For the Law was given through **Moses**; grace and truth were realized through **Jesus Christ**."

1 Corinthians 11:25
 "This cup is the new covenant **in my blood**."

Hebrews 10

"11 Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; 12 but he (**Jesus**), having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 waiting from that time onward until his enemies are made a footstool for his feet. 14 For by one offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. 15 And **the Holy Spirit also testifies to us**; for after saying, 16 "This is the covenant which I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put My laws upon their hearts, and write them on their mind," He then says, 17 "And their sins and their lawless deeds I will no longer remember." 18 Now where there is forgiveness of these things, an offering for sin is no longer required."



Word of the Cross **FOR** us
 We are "In Christ" by faith

Positional holiness

security
 significance

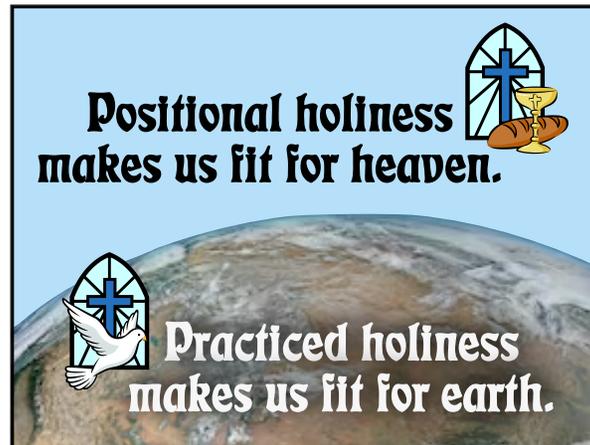
Practiced holiness

Christ's Spirit is in us
 Way of the Cross **IN & THROUGH** us

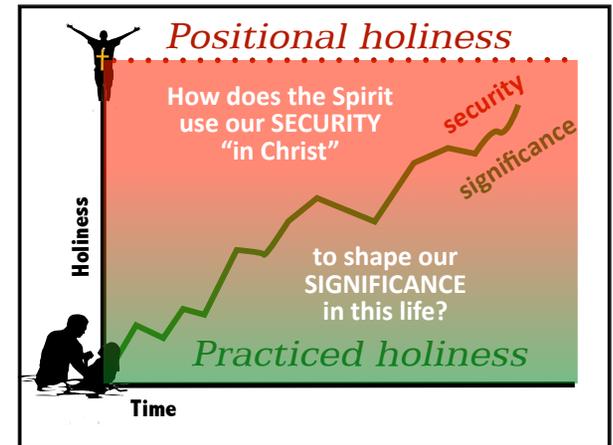
Holiness

Time

Positional holiness makes us fit for heaven.



Practiced holiness makes us fit for earth.



Positional holiness

How does the Spirit use our **SECURITY** "in Christ"

security
 significance

to shape our **SIGNIFICANCE** in this life?

Practiced holiness

Holiness

Time

παρακλῆτις **PARACLETE**

(one who comes alongside to defend, encourage, comfort, teach)

John 14:26

“When the **Helper** comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the **Spirit of truth**, who proceeds from the Father, He will **bear witness of me.**”

John 15:26

“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 said to you.”

The Holy Spirit's ministry is about **speaking to and through us about what Christ has done for us**, more than giving us “signs & wonders” or changing our circumstances.

What should we pray for?

Old covenant
(signs, feelings,
changed
circumstances)

the Spirit with us

New covenant
(wisdom,
response to
circumstances)

the Spirit in us

“True prayer is asking God what **He** wants.”

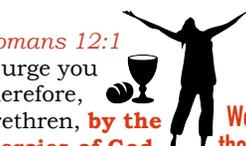
In the end it is what our soul really **needs & longs for.**



William Barclay

Romans 12:1

“I urge you therefore, brethren, **by the mercies of God**, to **present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice**, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”



Word of the Cross



Way of the Cross

Paracletes help us sacrifice ourselves



to bear fruit in God's Kingdom.

The Holy Spirit's ministry station is “under the bus”

(stress, injustice, suffering, etc.)

just like Jesus' and the Apostles'.

- a testing ground
- a learning lab
- a witness site
- a saint maker
- a lighthouse & salt shaker



James 1

“**2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials**, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. **4** And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. **5** But **if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God**, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.”

James 4

“**1** What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? **2** You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. **3** You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. **4** You adulteresses, do you not know that **friendship with the world is hostility toward God**? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. **5** Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: “**He jealously desires the spirit which He has made to dwell in us**”?”

2 Corinthians 1

“**3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all **comfort**; **4** who **comforts** us in all our affliction so that we may be able to **comfort** those who are in any affliction with the **comfort** with which we ourselves are **comforted** by God. **5** For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our **comfort** is abundant through Christ. **6** But if we are afflicted, it is for your **comfort** and salvation; or if we are **comforted**, it is for your **comfort**, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer; **7** and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our **comfort**.”

The Spirit works through Jesus, & believers to encourage us in the Way of the Cross as we face stressful circumstances.

1 Cor. 13:4-7

Love is a response to

patient trials
kind insults

not jealous success of others
does not brag power & authority
is not arrogant freedom
not unbecoming competition
not self seeking confrontation
is not provoked injustice
holds no grudges failure of others
does not rejoice gossip & slander
rejoices in the truth losses
bears all things discouragement
believes / hopes all things delayed hopes
endures all things

God's Spirit anoints, not our circumstances, but us as we respond to them.

The Holy Spirit's ministry station

Hebrews 10

"19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have **confidence to enter the holy place** by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a **new and living way** which he inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, through his flesh,"

1.

Where there is need for **confidence** in the face of stress, social injustice, frustration, etc.

"enter the holy place"

Embrace New Covenant promises.

The Holy Spirit's ministry station

Hebrews 10

"21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let's **approach God with a sincere heart** in full **assurance** of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water."

2.

Where there is need for **assurance** in the face of doubt, failure, and hopelessness.

"approach God with a sincere heart"

Pray with confidence for courage.

The Holy Spirit's ministry station

Hebrews 10

"23 Let's **hold** firmly to the confession of our **hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful;"

3.

Where there is need for **consistency** in the face of temptations and hopelessness.

"without wavering"

Persevere with your inheritance in mind.

The Holy Spirit's ministry station

Hebrews 10

"24 and let's consider how to **encourage one another in love and good deeds**, 25 not abandoning our own **meeting together**, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near."

4.

Where there is need for **community** in the face of autonomy & isolation.

"encourage one another"

Show up as an active member of the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 4

"13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15 but **speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."

The Spirit creates the Body of Christ as a spiritual development community.

Building a bridge between the Word and Way of the Cross.

#1 **Take our baptism seriously**

- Grant God controlling interest in your life.
- Self sacrifice should be expected.

#2 **Pray in the Spirit**

- Ask God for wisdom in responding to circumstances more then changing them.

#3 **Major on majors and minor on minors**

- Put your best foot forward without losing your balance or kicking your neighbor.
- Be more than a "body part" of the Body of Christ.

