

Feb 11th 2007: Introducing the Holy Spirit: Gen 1:1-2: John 14

When I was a boy.....God the Father...Son...Holy Ghost.....Always had me worried
Then as I grew...understanding.....**Came** to appreciate....Person of God the HS as
..the powerful presence of God within me

At times so near.....could touch Him

At times so remote.....moved away

- **Beyond all that however.....there remained in my heart**

A certain distance about...my relationship with...when compared to relationship...Father

To understand God the Son....never hard...**He** lived on....as I did...**He** too once a boy

I can visualise Jesus.....my friend, Saviour, companion, brother, Master, Lord

JUST to talk of Him like that....warms my heart.

It was Jesus...who showed me God the Father

No longer was He an unapproachable & hidden God...but the Eternal Father who loves

Again and...Jesus talks about God as His father(John's)...and the love between the two
..stands out.....mighty beacon

Then in John 16:23-24 He proclaimed.....*****

And even more surprisingly in John 16:27.....*****

Because I have surrendered.....I have a Father in....who loves....yearns to answer

- **It was Jesus**....who then introduced me to God the Spirit.....in a whole new way

There in John.....Jesus..referred to the Spirit.....just once(14:6) as the Holy.....

...but again and again as the Counsellor

The Spirit is holy.....He too is without sin....as both the Son and.....

But the major thing.....Lord wants us to know about.....Is Who He is for us

..and the role..perform in our lives

******So He tells us in John 14:15-17.....**

Here we have Jesus....INTRODUCING His disciples and us....to the Person of HS

**Introductions happened to us all the time.....There are some...more important
Because they are the ones made..in order to help you**

*(Imagine a young teenage boy.....moving to a new school mid term....Headmaster
calls another to his office.....This young man will look after you
If he is responsible and you click....could be a real help
If he is not responsible
Or it may be...take what you need ...without pursuing a further relationship.....)*

To a certain degree...that's how I handled the presence of the Spirit
It took a long while for me to begin to build.....the relationship with Him....
That Jesus points us towards

Look again at what Jesus said in John 14:16 *****

ANOTHER COUNsellor.....another like me....to be with you for ever

- **This word counsellor.....παρακλητος Paraclete.....ADVOCATE**
Means to come alongside to help.....**Did** have a legal use then.....Speak up

But there was another common usage.....One who was there for you....needed help
A friend with power ...influence.....**Able** to assist you thro the tough times

The AV translated it >>>Comforter.....

For the Paraclete....by their presence

Brought comfort.....**But it** not comfort in a Kleenex tissue type of way

- But by showing you....then enabling you.....
To do what was needed...to survive....to flourish.....in that situation.

Jesus was that to each of His disciples.....The HS wants to be that to each of us

*(TV Show...Biggest loser.....They have a trainer
Who has the expertise....resources.....skills.....authority.....to help them achieve
Now these trainers are tough on them.....But they have a tender heart towards
They want them to succeed.....And because of this....a deep relationship builds...)*

In a sense...they are Paraclete like figures.....**Counsellor** comes alongside to help

- **But of course**...God the HS comes into our life...to be much more than Trainer...Friend
He has the Power to do something really magnificent in our lives

Look with me at the first two verses of the Bible.....Genesis 1:1-2....*****

- In the beginningGod.....Plural noun....singular verb
Showing that it is not gods.....**But that the One God is** more than just One person
He is more majestic than we can ever comprehend

He created.....and this special word....only ever used for God....never for man
For only God created out of nothing

- **Now**
- **We know from the New**.....that God the Son was present there at Creation
Colossians 1:16 says of Jesus:-
“For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.”

And here we find the Spirit.....hovering.....over what was formless....empty....dark
Without order

- **This verb translated hovering**.....is such an interesting word
The AV and RSV.....moving The Message.....
*God’s Spirit brooded like a bird above the watery abyss ******

- **It is only used 3**.....and only twice in this particular verbal form
The other place is in **Deuteronomy 32:11** *****

You can seewhere the Message gets its bird imagery from
But the bird here is a large masculine Eagle
And the verb form here and.....is active intensive

To say.....I break is to use the active tense.....To use intensive...Shattered

- **So for the Spirit....to hover....was not to gently flutter over**

It was to move with purpose.....power.....passion

....There was an intensity.....even hyper-activity

And the purpose was in accordance with the character of God...**Of order and not To bring Order out of chaos.....Peace out of confusion.....Light out of darkness**
And the Spirit does so in a powerful yet tender way.....

- I appreciate the way The Message puts Deut 32:11

*He was like an eagle hovering over its nest, overshadowing its young,
Then spreading its wings, lifting them into the air, teaching them to fly.*

- **That's the work** that the Spirit loves to do.....for every believer
- He is powerfully over the life of each.....
- He sees the chaos.....wants to bring order
- He sees the areas of confusion.....wants to bring peace
- He sees the darkness that sometimes blinds us.....and wants to bring light

And He does so as a friend.....as a helper.....as our paraclyte

**Just last Sunday...Helen gave me a book.....Both strange...Interesting
Young girl....on a spiritual journey.....**

Recognises that at times in her life.....of spiritual challenge...there is a voice
.....that presents itself...**Voice** of reason.....common sense.....self preservation
of doing the acceptable

She calls it the Other.....and realizes that up to that point...always followed w/o ?

But now she has become aware of....a spiritual power within

Calling her to act...to speak....to love.....to live...**in a way that goes against**

And she decides...that she will seek to recognize the voice of the Other.....

With its earthly tones.....and self serving motives

And chose rather to follow the One within her ...guiding her towards freedom

This last week I have sought also to do that....**knowing that** the One within is God the
My special...powerful ...yet tender friend.....Whose passion is to make me holy

