

How the Holy Spirit and Man Influence Evangelism

Lesson 4

The Part of the Holy Spirit and the Part of Man

What the Holy Spirit Does in Reaching the Sinner

1. Calls to eternal life (Revelation 22:17; Acts 2:38)
2. Reproved (John 16:8-11)
3. Draws (John 6:44)
4. Testifies of Christ (John 15:26)
5. Leads into truth (John 16:13)
6. Shows the things of Christ (John 16:14)
7. Quickens to the penitent soul (Ephesians 2:1, 5)
8. Imparts the new birth (John 3:5-7; Titus 3:5)
9. Secures justification (1 Corinthians 6:11)
10. Produces sanctification (2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2)

What the Holy Spirit Does to Aid the Bride in Reaching the Sinner

He promises to go:

1. Before us (Romans 8:14; Isaiah 45:2)
2. Behind us (Isaiah 58:8)
3. Beneath us (Deuteronomy 33:27)
4. With us (Matthew 28:20)
5. Within us (John 14:17)
6. Upon us (Acts 1:8)

Modern tactics among many evangelical groups make soul winning the work of man. Through means, manipulation, gimmicks, psychological ploys, and salesmanship, one man persuades another man to repeat a prayer or perform some other sacrament of fundamentalism. This results in a lost man having done the bidding of a saved man without any resulting conversion.

Passivism and Calvinist heresies make salvation the work of God alone and often rule out the commission given the church and the example set by its apostles to go and proclaim the gospel. It is odd that adherents of these religious philosophies feel it necessary to try to convert men from one political or social view to another but do not feel it necessary to try to win the lost to Jesus.

What is clear from scripture is that God has a part in drawing, convicting, and saving the sinner and that the saved man has a part as well, being the means whereby God accomplishes these purposes.

Workers Together with the Trinity

- i. God allows us part in His work (1 Corinthians 3:9; Psalms 113:6; 2 Timothy 2:21)
 - A. God brought forth Lazarus after men rolled away the stone (John 11:41-44).
 - B. He uses men to farm His land (1 Corinthians 3:6-9).
 - C. The seed, the word of the gospel, is sown by His workers (Mark 4:14).
- ii. The death, burial, and resurrection of Christ
 - A. God's love in giving His Son to die for us (1 John 3:16).
 - B. Redemption through the shed blood (Colossians 1:14).
 - C. His death in our place (Isaiah 53:4-6).
 - D. Christ died for our sins (1 Corinthians 15:1-4)
 - E. But the vessel may say, ***I have begotten through the gospel*** (1 Corinthians 4:15)

- iii. The gospel, not the evangelist or the method, is the power (Romans 1:16).
 - A. The Holy Spirit convicts the sinner (John 16:7-8).
 - B. He woos and draws the sinner to Christ (John 12:32).
 - C. He reveals Christ to the heart (1 Corinthians 2:13-15).
 - D. He performs the new birth (Titus 3:5; John 3:5-6).
 - E. The gospel must come by the Holy Ghost (1 Thessalonians 1:5).
 - F. But the Holy Ghost is in the body of the believer (1 Corinthians 6:19).
- iv. The vessel: human instrument.
 - A. We labour with God (1 Corinthians 3:9).
 - B. We are ambassadors in Christ's stead (2 Corinthians 5:18-21).
 - C. The Spirit and the bride say come (Revelation 22:17).

Man

Sows seed
 Waters seed
 Fertilizes seed
 Digs around
 Weeps
 Goes
 Tells
 Lifts up Jesus
 Prays
 Invites

Holy Spirit

Places it in good soil
 Gives it life
 Causes it to grow
 Prunes
 Ripens
 Accompanies
 Convicts
 Draws men to Him
 Empowers
 Performs spiritual birth

The Spiritual Condition of the Lost Man

- i. He is dead and needs life (Ephesians 2:1-2; John 3:1-16).
 - A. Physical death is the separation of the spirit from the body (James 2:26).
 - B. Spiritual death is the separation of the sinner from the life of God (Ephesians 4:18; 1 John 5:12; John 3:36).
 - 1. Consider Adam, separated from God and the garden (Genesis 2:17).
 - 2. Consider the prodigal called dead while separated from home and father (Luke 15:24; 1 Timothy 5:6).
 - C. The second death fixes this condition eternally (Revelation 20:12-15).
- ii. Since man is spiritually dead TO God, his great need is life FROM God (John 1:12-13).
 - A. He cannot make himself alive; only Jesus has the necessary life (John 5:26).
 - B. He must have re-generating from God (Titus 3:5; 1 John 5:1; John 5:24-25; Galatians 3:2; Ephesians 1:13).
 - C. We can present the truth; we cannot save the soul.
- iii. He is lost and needs to be found.
 - A. Lost can mean a thing is not in the possession of its lawful owner.
 - B. Lost can mean a person does not know where he is or how to find his destination (Luke 19:10; 2 Corinthians 4:3).
 - C. In Luke 15 **lost** and **lose** are used 7 times.
 - 1. A sheep was lost through straying (Luke 15:1-7; Isaiah 53:6).
 - 2. A coin was lost through a fall (Luke 15:8-10).
 - 3. A son was lost through wilfulness (Luke 15:11-32).
 - D. Restoration is possible when one seeks the lost or when conviction draws them back.
- iv. He is a slave a needs redemption.
 - A. The sinner is under the control of or in the possession of another (2 Timothy 2:26).
 - B. He cannot free himself (John 8:34; Romans 6:16, 20; 7:14).

- C. The world is a gigantic slave camp (Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:3).
 - D. Christ came to redeem (Galatians 4:4-5; Luke 4:18; 1 Peter 1:18).
 - E. He paid the ransom price for redemption (Galatians 3:13; Mark 10:45; 1 Corinthians 6:20).
 - F. He can deliver those who trust Him (John 8:32, 36; Ephesians 1:17; Galatians 5:1).

- v. He is alienated and needs reconciliation.
 - A. Man is in enmity against God (Romans 5:10; 8:7-8; Titus 3:3).
 - B. He hates truth and refuses Christ's dominion (Romans 1:20-21, 28; Daniel 5:23).
 - C. He needs to be brought back to repentance and submission (Luke 15:32).
 - D. Peace can be made, but the sinner must surrender (Colossians 1:20; 2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

- vi. He is blind and needs sight.
 - A. His understanding is darkened (Ephesians 4:18).
 - B. He is blinded by Satan (2 Corinthians 4:4).
 - C. He cannot see the kingdom of God (John 3:3).
 - D. He cannot understand spiritual things (1 Corinthians 2:14).
 - E. He dwells in darkness and loves it (John 1:5; 3:19; Colossians 1:13).
 - F. He needs to have his eyes opened (Acts 26:18).
 - G. Christ came to bring light (John 8:12; 9:5; Luke 4:18) and to enlighten (Psalms 119:130).
 - H. Those who trust Him are brought into the light (2 Corinthians 4:6; Ephesians 5:8).

- vii. He is guilty and needs justification.
 - A. Sin is a crime against God (Psalm 51:4).
 - B. Man, by nature, is opposed to God (Psalms 51:5).
 - C. This nature, called the flesh, loves what God hates and hates what God loves (Romans 8:5-9).
 - 1. Man sins because he is a sinner (Mark 7:21-23).
 - 2. His portrait (Romans 3:10-19, 23).
 - 3. Man sins in thought (Matthew 5:28).
 - 4. Man sins in word (Matthew 12:34-37).
 - 5. Man sins in deed (Jeremiah 44:4; Proverbs 6:16).
 - D. Crime is deemed greater when its victim is innocent, so the greatest crime is to sin against God (Hosea 7:2; Amos 5:12; Titus 3:3; Romans 1:28-32; Psalms 14:2-3).
 - E. The only way to be justified (declared righteous) before God is if one who has not sinned pays the full penalty for one who has sinned. This Christ did for us (Romans 3:21-26; 5:1-2; Galatians 2:16).

- viii. He is a debtor and needs pardon.
 - A. The sinner owes a massive debt to God but is bankrupt.
 - B. He owes God honour and service but has failed to render them (Luke 7:41-42).
 - C. He owes God his life and will account for its use (Romans 14:12).
 - D. God has provided pardon through the payment of Jesus' blood (Isaiah 43:25; 44:22; 55:6-7; Acts 3:19; 13:38; Colossians 2:13; Micah 7:18-19).