

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit has many descriptive names portraying His various ministries, including "The Comforter". This is the designation given to the Holy Spirit by Jesus. This name is "**Paraclete**" in the Greek language and primarily refers to the Holy Spirit. It is found in five verses in the New Testament John 14:16,26; 15:26; 16:7; I John 2:1.

Joh 14:26 But **the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost**, whom **the Father will send in my name**, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Joh 14:27 **Peace I leave with you**, my peace I give unto you: **not as the world giveth**, give I unto you.

Joh 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for **if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you**; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

The Greek word `parakletos' is derived from `para' - (to the side of) and `kaleo' - (to call or summon). The word "Comforter" bears the following literal meaning - one called to the side of another for the purpose of helping, aiding, counselling or advising him in any way.

In criminal or legal proceedings it was the custom in courts in olden times for those engaged in legal action would make their appearances at the court of justice accompanied by one or more of their friends. These friends were called in the Greek "Paraclete" and in the Latin "Advocatus".

The "paraclete" did this without any hope of payment or reward, yet at the same time giving his friend the full advantage of his experience, skill and professional ability. They were given counsel, their very presence in standing by them supported them in their hour of trial. The paraclete acted as a mediator and intercessor.

55 years ago I made a personal decision to follow the Lord Jesus Christ. The burden of sin and shame left me. Immediately; I felt like a heavy weight leave my body. Then the joy of the Lord that the bible speaks about flooded my being. I repented and then I experienced what is written in the book of ACTS.

Act 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when **the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;**

I felt the refreshing of soul and spirit. I experienced that joy that David of old spoke of.

Psa 16:11 Thou wilt shew me the path of life: **in thy presence is fulness of joy;** at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Oft times men and women who at one time experienced god's presence decide they can do without God's presence. Some try to hide themselves from God.

Gen 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and **Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD** God amongst the trees of the garden.

Jon 1:10 Then were the men exceedingly afraid, and said unto him, Why hast thou done this? **For the men knew that he fled from the presence of the LORD,** because he had told them.

Psa 139:7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or **whither shall I flee from thy presence?**

Psa 139:8 If **I ascend up into heaven,** thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

Amos repeats what David said.

Amo 9:2 **Though they dig into hell,** thence shall mine hand take them; **though they climb up to heaven,** thence will I bring them down:

Man must recognize that they cannot escape what is written in the Word of God.

We cannot ask God into our life and then live like the devil. People are doing this all over the world.

This is the reason there are so many confessional boxes. Many have been taught that taking the communion will change their lives and get them into heaven. Only to discover that a few days later they need to confess to a priest all over again. The confessional box ritual will not get you into heaven; it will not change you're life.

Man cannot forgive another man. An ordained man or priest cannot cleanse from sin.

Only Christ can cleanse from sin and change our lives.

Only Christ can give us His Holy presence and direct us to His perfect will for our lives.

Exo 33:14 And he said, **My presence shall go with thee**, and I will give thee rest.

Exo 33:15 And he said unto him, **If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.**

Moses did not want to start the journey into the wilderness with the accompaniment of the children of Israel. Moses needed God's assurance of His presence. He had enjoyed God's presence for 40 years. Would he have enough time to spend with God? Moses was one who would daily "seek God's face".

Psa 27:8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, **Thy face, LORD, will I seek.**

God told David to seek His face. What was David's response.

"Thy face Lord, will I seek".

Psa 27:4 **One thing have I desired of the LORD**, that will I seek after; **that I may dwell in the house of the LORD** all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and **to enquire in his temple.**

David had one desire, one mandate. "SEEK the Lord and stay in His presence."

Psa 27:14 **Wait on the LORD:** be of good courage, and **he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.**

Psa 37:7 Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for him: **fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way**, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and **it doth not yet appear what we shall be:** but we know that, when he shall appear, **we shall be like him;** for we shall see him as he is.

We don't know what God has in store for us. It is the adventure of new life Christ.

Mat 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then **he shall reward every man according to his works.**

Psa 37:5 Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.