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The Revelation of the Son

Gospel of John, Part LII

John 14:22-31

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I. Preparing the Twelve

II. The Revelation of the Son

A. Judas' Confusion (22)

Throughout Jesus' earthly ministry, He has endeavored to reshape the disciples' view of the _____. Like other Jews in Jesus' day, Judas and the other disciples think of the kingdom as a visible manifestation of Jesus' power. The other Gospels record Jesus' parables of the kingdom in which Jesus challenges this conception. Note Jesus' summary of these parables in Luke 17:20-21 – *“The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”*

B. Jesus' Response (23-24 cf. 1 Cor 6:19)

The way in which Jesus reveals Himself is by indwelling His people: He dwells in those who love Him and keep His commandments by the Spirit (14:16-17). By the Spirit, the Father and the Son dwell in the believer. Because the Spirit is _____ (26), distinct from the corruption of the world, He cannot indwell those who are in the world.

C. Jesus' Promise (25-31)

In verses 25-31, Jesus promises a solution to their confusion. Following His departure, the *Holy Spirit* will make everything clear. So the disciples need not fear. Jesus is trustworthy and will fulfill all He has promised.

In verse 28, Jesus chides the disciples for their self-centeredness. If they really loved Jesus, then they would rejoice that He goes to the Father. Why? Because the Son has no greater longing than to please His Father and the only way to preserve the glory of the Father in the salvation of sinners is for the Son to sacrifice Himself. So if they loved Him, they would want Him to fulfill His calling.

Jesus is nearing the end of His earthly ministry. Satan is coming to destroy Jesus even though he has no rightful claim upon Him. So if Satan has no rightful claim upon Jesus, then why does Jesus sacrifice Himself? *But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do.* He gave His life out of love for His Father and a desire to reveal Himself to the world through His death.

III. How does Jesus reveal Himself?

A. Jesus Reveals Himself through His Word (23-24 cf. Rom 13:8-10)

First, Jesus reveals Himself through His Word. As David sings in Psalm 119:130, *“The entrance of Your Word brings light, it gives understanding to the simple.”*

While it is popular in our day to pit _____ against law, the Scriptures do no such thing. To love God is to keep His commandments (14:15,21,23,24). Paul writes:

Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” “You shall not covet,” and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law. (Ro 13:8ff)

So notice in our text: how will the world know that Jesus _____ the Father? (31) Because He obeys the Father’s *commandment* (cf. 12:49-50).

B. Jesus Reveals Himself through His Spirit (26 cf. 2 Cor 4:1-6)

Just as the world often pits law against love, so it is common for Christians to pit the _____ against the law. But Jesus insists that the Spirit works through His teachings. He promises the Apostles that the Spirit would remind them of all Jesus had spoken and done. John alludes to this transformation several times in his Gospel (e.g., 2:22; 12:16). The Spirit enabled the Apostles to understand what the Scriptures were teaching and what Jesus had spoken and done. This is why the Church is *built upon the _____ of the apostles and prophets...* (Eph 2:20).

C. Jesus Reveals Himself through His Death (30-31 cf. Ps 2:8; 72:8,11;

Judas is confused because the OT clearly anticipates the worldwide spread of Christ’s kingdom. Judas thought that the Messiah would take his seat upon his throne and forcibly subdue the nations. Jesus does not abandon the promises of world conquest, but He rejects the means Judas had assumed. Jesus will reveal Himself to the world, not by brute force but by the proclamation of His death and resurrection. It is the preaching of the _____ that will bring the nations to worship God:

“Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save Me from this hour”? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.” Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” This He said, signifying by what death He would die. (Jn 12:28-31)

IV. Conclusion