

## The Day of Pentecost (2021)

Holy Spirit, Light Divine, shine upon this heart of mine;  
 Chase the shades of night away; turn the darkness into day.  
 Let me see my Savior's face; let me all His beauties trace;  
 Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to Thee.  
 Amen.

**John 15:26–27; 16:4b–15** 26“But when the COMFORTER comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. 27And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. 4But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. 5But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ 6But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for *if I do not go away, the COMFORTER will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.* 8*And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:* 9*concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;* 10*concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;* 11*concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.* 12“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

In the Name of Jesus.

“The Law came through Moses. Grace and truth—God-predictably-and-forever-taking-whatever-we-throw-at-Him!—Grace and Truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Moses and Jesus are farther apart than heaven and earth. East will meet West and the sunrise will meet the sunset before Christ turns into a lawgiver like Moses.

But Jesus Christ TALKS like Moses; uses the lawgiver's vocabulary. New commandments—two, not ten; but still, why call them commandments? Ach. It's the only vocabulary we can grasp; so we've been taught by our prince, the lying murderer.

And if the Holy Spirit takes what the Father gives to the Son and then pours that all out upon us—why does Jesus NOT say, 'The Comforter will speak the Gospel to the world!'"? Whyyyyy— 'He will accuse and convict and condemn and pass a sentence that does not end!'"?

Because you dear people made the strange choice, the unnatural decision, to crawl to the Altar of the Lord's Body and Blood this morning. God, of course, expected it; made it happen, matter-'o-fack! To comfort us, He must rip from our hands, our hearts, our souls—from US!—all that we know, all that we trust, all that we are cross-wired now to hear and obey: the world and its prince, the Liar.

The Liar has taught you and me very well, dear children of God. Thank God for our Baptism!

The Liar—Murderer!—only has one weapon. And it's a dandy. 'Since God is as insecure as YOU, YOU must catch HIS attention; it helps to trash-talk others who are just like you. Think of it as trying to be the prettiest worm in the worm bucket.'

'Now, pastor! Who would listen to such nonsense?'

Who indeed? Lemme see....

Can you, my dear one—can YOU...get through one blessed day without chewing up and spitting out another child of God? Can we get off of this property today, without someone killing poor pastor's faith and joy and hope and love, by our endless reportage of how the next poor worm is too wormy to engage?

Convict, condemn, sin, judgment, \*righteousness\*. We are addicted to these things; we LIVE from them—what the Comforter teaches us is not living, but death.

So what's the comfort today, for people like miserable sinner pastor Paul and y'all who have a ways to go to catch me? The Comforter!

The Comforter shows that glorious grace and truth which is only known to the Father and only to the Son. He shows it.....to us. We may even ask Him for it!

Despite your lying and murdering—whom? Politicians? Family members? The people who make the news? Christ died for the world, God's love with NO motivation behind it! And WE lie about men, and say 'NOT...SO...FAST! Someone like—SO-AND-SO—cannot be so quick to put God's ear in his mouth!'

So, we're sinners; with the rest of the world. Simply because we do not trust that the One Who cried out "It is finished!" has finished ANYTHING for ANYONE.

Ah! So the Gospel condemns our DOUBT!

The Spirit convicts us of UNBELIEF—as HE gives us something to believe in! The empty bucket gets filled! The squeaky wheel gets the grease! The sick gets the physician, and the sheep get a shepherd and the Deepest Breath God the Father and God the Son could ever Breathe OUT—He is N...O...T...H...I...N...G.... but comfort.

'Yes, you keep lying about men for whom Christ died and rose and went up and lives for and reigns and is coming back to save from the land of lies and murder! Oh! Don't despair! That's just because you CANNOT trust the Gospel! So, I have cajoled for you the best remedy! Your poor, miserable pastor—whom the world must ignore—when HE absolves you, you are absolved.

And heaven and hell, God and Liar cannot defy your poor, miserable pastor! Not this Sunday. And not on the Great Sunday to come.'

Oh! The Spirit! The Comfort!

'When you find that you are well-schooled by the chief Liar and Murderer—and the next poor man cannot catch a break from YOUR indictments and trials and sentences and punishments...'

'Don't worry. YOUR right-standing with God has ascended! Jesus Christ! Soooooo..... DO...NOT...EXPECT...TO...FIND...God-perfection in any man; least of all: you.'

Comfort! Comfort! My people! So, says our God!

Until we die, we're in the Lying-Murderer's kingdom. Ach! So don't be too worried when we take on the stank of his world. It would be great if you could keep your yap closed for a whole day about the hosts that disappoint you daily and much. By the way: if you figure out how to do that, please teach me.

It's about the worst sin we need to repent of: 'Christ SAID the work Heaven demanded is finished; but YOU...oh, YOU, still have a lot of work to do before Heaven smiles on you! God Father or Son or Holy Spirit is NOT...QUITE...YET... smiley about YOU! Want proof?! Just look at MY face!'

It would be swell if we few ran counter to the USA and the news-people and what passes for the Christian Church today: just pray for pardon for yourself, without ceasing; and the next man WILL catch a few seconds relief.

But when the Comforter gives you the Body of Jesus Christ to eat and His Blood to drink, His comfort is that YOU, dear child of God, are IN the Liar's world, but you are not OF his world. HE stands condemned. But NOT...YOU!

Who says so? The Comforter, Whom Jesus sent from the Father, as pledged. YOU, dear sinner, are being lied to—attempted murder!—when ANYONE tells you there is still work you need to do to catch Heaven's fancy. What is your guarantee? The Spirit the world cannot receive.

That's why the most certain pardon and life you can ever receive, is your poor, miserable pastor and HIS comfort for you again, 'I absolve you of everything you've learned from the devil, in the Name of Jesus.'