

19.b. THE THINGS IN WHICH WE HAVE COMMUNION

WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Fifth general work of the Holy Spirit is His work in sealing us. **EPH 4:30** “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption”

To seal an object usually means to stamp the image of the seal on the object sealed. So, we can say the effective communication of the image of God to us, His people, should be our sealing. Our sealing is to receive the Holy Spirit in our hearts where God’s righteousness and true holiness to the soul seals us. It can thus be seen that Christ has received the seal of the Father. **JN 6:27** “... On Him (Christ), God has placed His seal of approval”

Seals confirm grants, the sealing of testimony. When this is done, grants are irrevocable. This is why we can say that as the seal of God the Father has been impressed upon us, our assurance from God that He will never leave or forsake us, is in fact irrevocable. And God will not allow us to leave or forsake Him. As the law of conveyance transfers a property from one owner to the other, which is irrevocable, so too God’s transfer of life to us through the indwelling Holy Spirit, is irrevocable.

We are sealed for the day of redemption when, from the stamp, image and character of the Holy Spirit upon our souls, we have a fresh awareness of the love that God has given us, with an assurance that we have been accepted by God. The Holy Spirit communicates to us His own likeness, which is also the image of God the Father, and Jesus His son. This gives us the reverent boldness to approach the throne of Grace, through the saving blood of Jesus.

The sixth work of the Holy Spirit is His being a deposit, or guarantee. **2 COR 5:5** “Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose, and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come”

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, he promised to reimburse the inn keeper for any extra’s expenses. He could not guarantee this imbursement, for it is God who has the ultimate power over our lives.

However, when God gives His guarantee for an undertaking, it will be done, because God has the ultimate power over everything. Therefore, God is able to say, “I will never leave or forsake you”, and there is no superior power over God.

God is able to guarantee His promises, because no one is able to contradict or thwart the power of God. The whole promise of God is the new life that we will enjoy in Glory. This is guaranteed, but God has given us a fore taste of this life, by sealing His promise to us by the coming of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. When Christ said He will never leave or forsake us, it means that the Holy Spirit will never forsake us, because the Triune Godhead is three in one. The full inheritance promised is the fulness of the Spirit in the enjoyment of God.

When the Spirit has fully taken away the sin in our lives as we are raised to Glory, that is the full inheritance promised. God gives us His Spirit to assure us of the inheritance and to guarantee it to us. Thus, having given us His Word, promises, covenant, oath, the revelation of His faithfulness and His immutability are our guarantees. All of these exist outside of us, but the security of these guarantees lives in our hearts by the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit brings us the first fruits of this glorious life to come, for all those who will bow the knee to our gracious Master.

The Holy Spirit makes known to believers their acceptance with God. This, that He is their Father and that He cares for and loves them. We are no longer the slaves of the evil one, but the sons and daughters of God. The presence of the Holy Spirit in our hearts gives us a foretaste of things to come.

The Seventh general work of the Holy Spirit is to anoint Believers.

The Spirit who anoints us is the Spirit of Wisdom, of council, of Knowledge and Understanding in the fear of the Lord. Did not our Lord say that He would send the Holy Spirit to bring to mind all that Jesus had taught. This teaching comes from being anointed by the Spirit.

And this teaching comes to us through the word of God, preached and read.

The Spirit teaches sanctification through the opening of our eyes, giving us new understanding. He gives us a saving knowledge of the mystery of the gospel.

The Holy Spirit teaches by comforting us. Here the oil of the Spirit is called the “oil of gladness”. We are not always able to understand how or why we experience times of joy and gladness in circumstances that may appear to be dire to outsiders. But this is the work of the Blessed Spirit of God.

The Spirit teaches us of the Love of God in Christ. The gospel truths light up our hearts in a Spirit of gladness. By this anointing, the soul is kept from being seduced by error. Let us continually remember the goodness and Blessings that we have received in our lives as a shield against carelessness and neglect. To this end, the Spirit is also the Spirit of supplication. It is He who enables us to pray rightly and effectively.

We may consider our prayers a duty to God. It is therefore the Holy Spirit who exalts our faculties of the soul to honour God. The Spirit’s participation in our prayer life, lifts our souls up to the Father that we may savour the wonderful works that God has wrought on our behalf.

Faith looks for and meets with the Comforter in all these works of His. Let us not fall short of the response required of us in gratitude.