
SIN, RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND JUDGMENT.

Truths

- Jesus unpacked the right stuff at the right **time** – 16:4-6
- Jesus' departure brought the Holy Spirit – 16:7
- The Holy Spirit comes to **confront**, convince, and **comfort** – 16:8-11

ἐλέγξει (elegzei) – 'will convict' – 16:8

- a. to scrutinize or examine carefully, *bring to light, expose, set forth*.¹
- b. to bring a person to the point of recognizing wrongdoing, *convict, convince*.²

The Holy Spirit works to convince us of 3 realities:

- 1) Sin: **brokenness** we see in the world and in ourselves.
concerning sin, because they do not believe in me – 16:9
- 2) Righteousness: What our conscience tells us we should be.
concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer – 16:10
- 3) **Judgment**: What our conscience tells us we deserve.
concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged – 16:11

Common responses to the work of the Holy Spirit

- 1) Ignore: *'Let us eat and drink, and be merry for tomorrow we die!'* – 1 Corinthians 15:32b
- 2) **Attack** & Deny: *'The Christian faith from the beginning, is sacrifice the sacrifice of all freedom, all pride, all self-confidence of spirit, it is at the same time subjection, self-derision, and self-mutilation.'* – Friedrich Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*³
- 3) Self-righteousness: *'The practice of the Buddha-dharma can be summed up as refraining from all evil and doing all good deeds'* – Venerable Master Hua, on the Buddhist Temple, Chinatown, California

- 4) **Fear**: *'Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, so that they would not be put out of the synagogue; ⁴³ for they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.'* – John the Apostle, John 12:42-43
- 5) Repentance and **belief**: *'Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.'* – Jesus, Matthew 11:28-29
- The Holy Spirit guides us in Truth and glorifies Jesus – 16:12-15

Key: time/confront/comfort/brokenness/Judgment/Attack/Fear/belief

¹ William Arndt, Frederick William Danker, and Walter Bauer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature*, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), 315.

² *Ibid.*

³ Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche, *Beyond Good and Evil*, trans. Helen Zimmern (Seattle: Amazon Digital Services, 1886, 2004), location 644.