

The Comforter

"Jehovah hath anointed Me," He said,
"To preach good tidings unto the poor;
He hath sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,"
"And recovering of sight to the blind;"
"To proclaim the year of Jehovah's favor; . . .
To comfort all that mourn."
Isaiah 61:1

- Ms24-1898 We shall learn the value of the human soul when we learn to value the love of God for us. **A divine Saviour** died for all, that all might find in Him their divine Source. In Christ Jesus we are one, lifted to the same rank, members of the royal family, children of the heavenly King, by the utterance of one name, "Our Father," through Jesus Christ who loved us and gave His life a ransom for us. This places an equal value upon all. To the poor and oppressed and downtrodden of earth, Christ says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you **another Comforter**, even the **Spirit of truth**, (which is **Christ** formed within the hope of glory,) whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not: but ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be **in you**. **I will not leave you comfortless.**"

- DA 367 The Saviour has not promised His followers the luxuries of the world; their fare may be plain, and even scanty; their lot may be shut in by poverty; but His word is pledged that their need shall be supplied, and He has promised that which is far better than worldly good,--the abiding **comfort** of **His own presence**.

- Ms7-1902 And while the disciples were praying in an upper chamber, the Saviour's promise was verified. The **Comforter** came to the bereaved Church, and the apostles became mighty in power as the **Holy Spirit** rested upon them. God's chosen messengers "out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens." **Christ is to be known by the blessed name of Comforter**. "The Comforter," said Christ to His disciples, "**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, Peace I leave with you, **My peace** I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." Christ does not permit us to exercise a spirit of lording it over His

heritage. By His death Christ purchased the world for His heritage. All who love the Saviour will love those for whom He has **given His life**. "Blessed be the **God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Christ."

- 19MR 296-297 Preston, Melbourne, July 23, 1892. The nights are long and painful, but Jesus is my **Comforter** and my Hope. Today I have been able to sit up very little. . . In Him all fulness dwells. He has grace and pardon for every soul. As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love in giving **Jesus the Comforter**.

- RC 200 Let them study the seventeenth of John, and learn how to pray and how to live the prayer of Christ. He is **the Comforter**. He will abide in their hearts, making their joy full. (RH January 27, 1903)

- CTr 365 The work of the Holy Spirit is immeasurably great. It is from this source that power and efficiency come to the worker for God; and the Holy Spirit is the **Comforter**, as the **personal presence of Christ to the soul**.

- 8Red 66 Aquila and Priscilla listened to this able speaker, and saw that his teaching was defective. He had not a thorough knowledge of the mission of Christ, his resurrection and ascension, and of **his Spirit, the Comforter**, which he sent to his people.

- 8MR 49 July 16, 1892: The Saviour is our **Comforter**. This I have proved Him to be. I do not understand why I am so afflicted. At first I tried to reason out why I did not have strength to bear my testimony to the people in this country. But I try no longer. . . .

- 8MR 57 Christ comes as a **Comforter** to all who believe. He invites your confidence. He says, "Abide in me." Surely we may trust in our loving Saviour. You can say, "Yes, my Saviour, in Thee I can and will trust. I will abide in Thee."

- ST Sept 2, 1889 You cannot teach others of Jesus and his righteousness, you cannot portray his matchless love, and the fullness of his grace, you cannot

picture him as the Christian's all in all, as the **comforter and guide** of man, unless your own heart is filled with his love.

- 14MR 179 It is not essential for you to know and be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is. Christ tells us that the Holy Spirit is the **Comforter**, and the Comforter is the Holy Ghost, "the **Spirit of truth**, which the Father shall send in My name." "I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you" [John 14:16, 17]. This refers to the **omnipresence** of the **Spirit of Christ**, called the **Comforter**.

- 14MR 84 The **Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ**, which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, that through His grace we might be complete in Him.

- RH August 26, 1890 p 10. The reason why the churches are weak and sickly and ready to die, is that the enemy has brought influences of a discouraging nature to bear upon trembling souls. He has sought to shut **Jesus** from their view as the **Comforter**, as one who reproveth, who warns, who admonishes them, saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Christ has all power in heaven and in earth, and **he** can strengthen the wavering, and set right the erring. **He** can inspire with confidence, with hope in God; and confidence in God always results in creating confidence in one another.

- 1888 117 Christ said to his disciples, "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now." This is our condition. Would they not have been able to understand what he had to say to them, if they had been doers of his word—if they had improved point after point of the truth which he had presented to them? But although they could not then understand, he told them that he would send the **Comforter**, who would lead them into all truth. We should be in a position where we can comprehend the teaching, leading, and working of the **Spirit of Christ**. We must not measure God or his truth by our finite understanding, or by our preconceived opinions.

Spirit of Truth

- 7MR 72 Again He says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the **Spirit of truth [not deception]**; whom the world

cannot receive, because it seeth him not [**Jesus, the author of truth**], neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." (Ellen White added the brackets.)

- 2MR 337 **Jesus** comes to you as the **Spirit of truth**; study the **mind of the Spirit**, consult your Lord, follow His way. If you yield to the dictates of the mind and flesh, your spirit will lose its proper character and balance, and you fail to discern and cannot appreciate moral power. Then you will seek to carry out the maxims of worldlings.

- TM 137 Every loyal child of God will seek to know the truth. John stated the truth so plainly that a child may understand it, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever; even the **Spirit of truth**; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, **neither knoweth Him**." Do we choose to be numbered with those who cannot discern the truth, who are so blinded by the deceptive power of the enemy that they see not Him who is the **express image of the Father's person**?

- SW Oct 25, 1898 Christ was the **spirit of truth**. The world will not listen to His pleadings. They would not accept Him as their **guide**. They could not discern unseen things; spiritual things were unknown to them. But His disciples see in Him the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And they shall have **His abiding presence**. They shall have an experimental knowledge of the only true God and of Jesus Christ whom He hath sent.

- RH September 1, 1891, par. 1 The Lord himself has pledged his word, "If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the Spirit of truth [**now mark the following words**]; whom the world cannot receive; because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: **but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not** leave you comfortless: **I will come to you**. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because **I live**, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments [he that hath light in regard to the binding claims of the law of God], and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of **my Father**, and I will love him, and will **manifest myself** to him."

Greatest Gift

- YI June 29, 1893 As yet there is only a feeble, partial faith in the hearts of the professed followers of Christ in the word of God; but we must learn what it means to live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Who of us has this faith? Who of us believes with the simplicity of a little child that we may come to God, through the name of Jesus, and ask for spiritual food, ask for the **Holy Spirit, the greatest gift** that Heaven can bestow?
- COL 105 God does not conceal His truth from men. By their own course of action they make it obscure to themselves. Christ gave the Jewish people abundant evidence that He was the Messiah; but His teaching called for a decided change in their lives. They saw that if they received Christ, they must give up their cherished maxims and traditions, their selfish, ungodly practices. It required a sacrifice to receive changeless, eternal truth. Therefore they would not admit the most conclusive evidence that God could give to establish faith in Christ. They professed to believe the Old Testament Scriptures, yet they refused to accept the testimony contained therein concerning Christ's life and character. They were afraid of being convinced lest they should be converted and be compelled to give up their preconceived opinions. The treasure of the gospel, the **Way, the Truth, and the Life**, was among them, but they **rejected the greatest gift** that Heaven could bestow.
- YRP 284 In giving the Holy Spirit, it was **impossible for God to give more**. To this gift nothing could be added. By it all needs are supplied. The Holy Spirit is the vital **presence of God**, and if appreciated will call forth praise and thanksgiving, and will ever be springing up unto everlasting life. The restoration of the Spirit is the covenant of grace.
- ST February 5, 1894 Since God has given the **greatest gift in his power**, we are to render to him our whole heart. He has poured out to the world the treasures of heaven, giving with such largeness that there is **nothing more to bestow**, no reserve grace or power or glory, and we are to respond to this love by rendering willing service to Jesus, who has died for us on Calvary's cross.
- Ed 73, 74 Through Christ had been communicated every ray of divine light that had ever reached our fallen world. It was He who had spoken through everyone that throughout the ages had declared God's word to man. . . **God's greatest gift** was bestowed to meet man's greatest need.
- RH May 4, 1876, par 65 Is not the gift of Christ a pledge of the Father's love for sinners? I would say unto you who have come forward here, The Father loves you.

- In the popular churches, we hear but little except, "Do you love Jesus?" The love of the Father is scarcely mentioned; it is only Christ, Christ. **God the Father** has given unto man **the greatest gift that Heaven held**.
- ST February 7, 1878 He wants you to come into that position where he may grant you the gift of immortality. He has given you the gift of his Son, **the greatest gift** that Heaven could bestow. . .
- ST December 30, 1889 **The greatest gift** that God could bestow upon men was bestowed in the gift of **his beloved Son**. The apostle says, "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" There was nothing held in reserve. No second probation will ever be provided. If the unspeakable gift of God does not lead man to repentance, there is nothing that ever will move his heart. **There is no power held in reserve** to act upon his mind, and arouse his sensibilities. The whole character of God was revealed in his Son, the whole range of the possibilities of heaven is displayed for the acceptance of man in the Son of the Infinite One.
- 3MR 323 **God's greatest gift is Christ**, whose life is ours, given for us. (also 316; Hvn 39)
- SC 9 Nature and revelation alike testify of God's love. Our **Father** in heaven is **the source** of life, of wisdom, and of joy.
- GC 477 The Father **gave His Spirit** without measure to His Son, and we also may partake of its fullness. Jesus says, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the **Holy Spirit to them** that ask Him?" Luke 11:13. "If ye shall ask anything in My name, **I will do it.**"
- YRP 114 You are accepted in the Beloved. I have had the most earnest desire that you should perfect a Christian character, not in your own strength, but in the strength and in the virtue and righteousness of **Christ**. The donation of the Holy Spirit was the greatest gift God could bestow upon finite man. . . Has not God said He would give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him? And is not this Spirit a real, true, actual **Guide**? . . . They pray for the **Lord** to teach us and yet are afraid to credit the pledged word of God and believe we have been **taught of Him**.
- . . trust Him to the uttermost, that **His Holy Spirit** will lead you to interpret aright **His plans** and the working of His providence.
- COL 223 We are to follow the **Lamb of God** whithersoever He goeth. **His guidance** is to be chosen, **His companionship** valued above the companionship of earthly friends. . .

- COL 225 The veriest sinners are the objects of His deep, earnest pity and love. He sends **His Holy Spirit** to yearn over them with tenderness, seeking to draw them to **Himself**.

- 6MR 56. 57 This is the reception of the Holy Spirit, **to know God and Jesus Christ whom he has sent**. Then we shall have a genuine experience.

- 14MR 84 The **Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ**, which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, that through **His grace** we might be complete **in Him**. The Lord has provided that we should always be under the teaching and influence of the Holy Spirit.