

February 12, 2012

“Therefore, *do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own*” (Matthew 6:34 *). God knows all about tomorrow and has provided the help we need.

During Jesus’ last night with the disciples, He assured them and us, “*And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you*” (John 14:16-18 *).

The Helper that Jesus promised the disciples is none other than the Holy Spirit, the *Paracletos*. The one called alongside to help. Jesus looked down through the years and saw us as the imperfect sinful creatures that we are and His heart went out to us.

He knew that we could not get along without the Helper. He agreed with God that it is not good for us to be alone. The same Holy Spirit helper promised to the disciples, and that helped Jesus, is available for us, today! Not only today, but forever!

Jesus said, “*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. Peace I leave with you.*” (John 14:26-27 *) Thank you, Jesus!

Comments by Harry Bain

* (New American Standard Bible; i.e., NASB



The Helper

“...*I will make him a helper suitable for him.*” (Genesis 2:18 *)

Adam lived in the Garden of Eden and enjoyed life in a world when his eyes beheld absolute perfection. God took care of Adam’s every need, and he apparently lacked for little. One day God took action to complete a missing part of His plan for Adam.

“*Then the LORD God said, ‘it is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.’*” (Genesis 2:18 *) A study of the word “helper” gives the picture that God provided the helper that corresponded to Adam’s needs. God knew Adam and surely understood the kind of helper that Adam needed for the work that lay before him.

The account goes on to tell the first surgery recorded in the Bible. God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam and then removed a part of his body. God took the part of the body removed from Adam and fashioned (built) a woman. Then the Bible tells us that God, “...*brought her to the man*” (Genesis 2:22*). The woman was to be a helper to Adam.

She was to help him, comfort him, and be his companion for their natural life together. The two were to become one flesh and strive to do the work God had already planned for them.



God knew Adam's situation and provided an answer to that need. Likewise, we know that God is aware of our need this very hour, and He can supply the help that we need. God wants to be our helper.

God knows that it is not good for man to be alone. God will send a helper to come along side us and assure that we are never without help. God promised Joshua, "...*Just as I have been with Moses, I will be with you; I will not fail you or forsake you*" (Joshua 1:5 *). That promise is one of the "*pearls of great value*" that Jesus talked about in Matthew 13:45.

Jesus faced the reality of loneliness and needed a helper as the time to return to the Father grew near. At the Last Supper, Jesus told again of His imminent death. The disciples were not much help because they did not yet understand what Jesus was telling them. Jesus said, "*Behold, an hour is coming and has already come, for you to be scattered each to his own home, and to leave Me alone*" (John 16:32 *).

Jesus knew that one of the disciples would betray Him, and the others would leave Him. Jesus would be very much alone. All would desert Him in that fateful hour. Jesus knew that, while He would be left physically alone, there was hope! One time Jesus told His disciples, "*and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me*" (John 16:32 *).

The same God, who saw a need for a helper in Adam's life, was available to help Jesus through all that lay ahead on that night.

Jesus knew what was coming and sought the Father's help and companionship as he wrestled within Himself to stand strong.



Jesus prayed for us after He talked with the disciples. He asked the Father on our behalf, "*I do not ask in behalf of these alone (the disciples), but for all who believe in Me through their word*" (John 17:20 *). If the Father has called us to Himself, we are the ones who believe in Jesus because of the word the disciples left us.

When Jesus was with the disciples in the garden, the full realization of the physical suffering that He must endure became reality. Jesus, in His humanity, could not bear all that was to come without an external force, the Helper. The Bible tells us that Jesus fell on His face in prayer three times before His Father. "*Father, if Thou are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Thine be done*" (Luke 22:42 *).

We are told that Jesus prayed so fervently His sweat became like drops of blood and fell to the ground. The Father dispatched an angel to strengthen in His agony as Jesus felt the sins of the entire world heaped upon Him that night--yes, even our sins. Thank God that the Father provided Jesus with the strength that was necessary.

If the evil one was successful in the attempt to stop God's salvation plan by killing Jesus before the divinely appointed time, we would all be lost and without hope. Can we possibly imagine what life would be like, "*having no hope and without God in the world*"? (Ephesians 2:12 *) Shivers run up our spine as we try to imagine such a life.

Thank God for Jesus' Helper in His hour of greatest testing! The good news is that the same Helper is available in our hour of need. God knows what is coming our way and wants to help.