

The Attackers: Spiritual Status Quo of the Apostles, John 16:12; Their Spiritual Opportunity: Prophecy of the Holy Spirit As Teacher, v. 13; Canon's Integrity Preserved by His Attributes of Righteousness, Veracity, & Immutability; Church Age Begins on Pentecost of A.D. 33

19. Even when positive, if the inventory of ideas is extremely limited, then what is taught is esoteric and therefore confusing.
20. In order to take His message and reveal it to others, Jesus reiterates His intention to provide another Teacher plus a system of power by which inculcation of doctrine could occur for those who are positive students.
21. Church Age doctrine is described as being a burden: *bastázō* which refers to something that is difficult to lift. Here it refers to information that is too advanced to be easily understood.
22. Although too sophisticated for them at present, their ability to understand in the future will be provided by the new Teacher:
John 16:13 - "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
23. This verse begins with the adversative conjunction **δέ (dé)**: "but," which sets up a contrast between the status quo in verse 12 and the opportunity described in verse 13.
24. This is followed by the conjunction **ὅταν (hótan)**: "when." What follows "when" is the Lord's identification of the new Teacher. At the end of verse 12, the disciples are doofi; after verse 13, they have hope of becoming sophisticated star students.
25. The source of their power is described first of all as the Spirit of truth: **Πνεῦμα (Pneúma)**: "Spirit," plus **ἀλήθεια (alétheia)**: truth.
26. In context, this word refers to the divine attribute of veracity: God is the source of truth, therefore divine revelation is the expression of His veracity.
27. The teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit is accurate to the smallest detail and thus can be trusted to be the absolute source of right thought, decision, and action.
28. The perfection of God's Word is insured by His righteousness, the accuracy of His Word is insured by His veracity, and the permanency of His Word is insured by His immutability.
29. All three Members of the Trinity possess the same essence, therefore, the Spirit of truth refers to the Holy Spirit's attributes of righteousness, veracity, and immutability insuring the perfection, accuracy, and permanence of the message.
30. The only source for this level of rectitude is the Trinity and in this context the Agent is the Holy Spirit, which the Lord prophesies will become operational by means of the aorist active subjunctive of the verb **ἔρχομαι (érchomai)**: "comes."
31. This makes reference to the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit initiates the indwelling and filling ministries which will signal the beginning of the Church Age.
32. We know from prophecy when the Church Age began – Pentecost of A.D. 33 – and from prophecy when it will end – the Rapture of the church at a date yet future but unspecified.

33. The aorist tense indicates a point in time when the Church Age begins; the active voice refers to the act of the Holy Spirit that initiates the dispensation, and the subjunctive mood indicates that the prophecy is dependent upon the Lord's decision to become mankind's substitutionary sacrifice on the cross.