

Programs 23 & 24

Union with Christ

John 17:20-23—"That we might be perfected in oneness."

Gal. 2:20—"It is no longer I that lives"

Col. 1:27—"Christ in you"

Phil. 3:10—"Know the power of His resurrection"

II Cor. 3:18 & Jam. 1:23-25--Look in the mirror.

Eph. 5:30-- His flesh and bones

II Cor. 11:2-4—"Espoused to Him"

Isa. 54:5—"Thy maker is thy husband"

Oneness with Christ

"It is God's intention to have a race of Christs'."

(Martin Luther)

Through the Cross, I am a walking Christ
in human form! (Gal. 2:20)

We are the visible form of the invisible God. (John 17:23)

Christ interpenetrates our beings and unites Himself to us. He becomes the essence of who we are. "He in me, and I in Him." (John 14:20)

Example: Fire in Iron unite as one; they are one, yet they maintain their distinctiveness.

One, but two, yet one!

Someone said, "The invisible God is He, the visible God as we." Does that statement sound kind of New Age-y? There is a New Age oneness, and there is true oneness with Christ. True oneness was prophesied in John 17:20-23 by Jesus. *"That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe*

that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them: that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one." The devil always counterfeits the truth. Actually New Age is not new at all. It is the same old age lie propagated by the devil and now counterfeited by his believers. Satan always wanted to be the only true God, but instead he became a devil. Whenever the creation tries to become the Creator, he always ends up being a devil.

The invisible God needs visible forms to express Himself through. The divine Spirit joins Himself with my human spirit and the two become one flesh. Again, does that make me God. God Forbid. But curiously when the creation humbly surrenders his vessel-hood to be indwelt by the Creator, he becomes a living expression of God.

You end up "being" who you contain. Think of it, Jesus said that "*you* are the light of the world." He called us humans "the light." We all know that we are not the light, we contain Him, who is the light, yet Jesus says that *we* are the light. The container becomes what it contains without robbing the Creator His deserved glory. No, we don't become the Second person of the trinity. Yet the expression becomes one with who it expresses.

Jacob Boehme, a great German mystic uses the illustration of the iron and the fire. The iron in itself is just that, dark and hard. Yet lit on fire, glows with transparent like illumination. The iron is not the fire and the fire is not he iron, yet the two in union interpenetrates each other and becomes a new moldable piece of metal. Confusing the function of the two is what Satan did, and is now what the New Agers are doing. Jesus cleared it up for us Christians when he said, "without me you can do nothing." Yet united to the Holy Spirit's fire, "You can do all things through Christ who empowers you." Just like a hand in a glove empowers the glove to move and live as it were, yet without the hand the glove cannot do anything of itself.

New Age teaching has no cross. They basically say that man is inherently good therefore he doesn't need a savior. They like to include Jesus as a good teacher, while disclaiming His divinity as the second person of the trinity. This thinking is the spirit of antichrist, I John 4:1-3. Although, I'm not too worried about it because the New Age people can try to leave the Cross out of their lives and their teaching, but the Cross won't leave them out. God is faithful to all mankind--his chastening hand will cause us all to have our dreaded crosses, in hope that we will come to the Cross of Christ for the cleansing blood and the forgiveness of God, as well as receiving the divine nature of Christ.

There is a great difference in saying that the creation is God, and saying with Jesus, "I can of myself do nothing." The man Jesus never claimed to have power in and of himself. Yet in union with his Father he had all power and authority, and lived and operated with all things under his

feet. His life exemplified "the new humanity" which his intercessory sacrificial death brought into being in us.

"There is an underground river flowing in us. It is that the real I is not this human I at all! It is He, of whom my I is an outer form. There is a unity - fixed, eternal, inwardly realized - in which He, the Positive, is the Real One living; and I, the negative, am also real, but really the expression of Him. Now the curious effect is that it is very much I living a human life in all the hurly-burly of human living, yet that is no longer my primary consciousness. Here I am with my ups and downs, my ins and outs; I deal with them as they arise, yet they don't upset me or occupy my thinking or produce the usual self-condemning as they used to. I have moved over, from having a self-consciousness in the center to a God-consciousness in and through my daily living self. I have begun to live positively, overflowing the fact of my negative human self. This is the new spontaneous living. Not one iota new in my environment. I am precisely who I was and where I have been all these years. But I am inwardly new in my consciousness, and, as we have been continually saying, we live by our inner consciousness because we are spirits, inner people."

Since we are one with Christ, then why do we get tempted? How do we commit sins, and how can I explain my humanity? The next chart brings light to the misunderstood human being.

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