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## Programs 23 and 24

### Union with Christ

Martin Luther, the father of the Reformation, once said, "It was God's intention to have a race of christ's. Nothing less than this is true holiness and the Gospel in operation. Holiness stands for Christ in you, the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of the Spirit and identification with Christ in His death and resurrection."

### **Through the Cross, We are the bodily form of Christ in human form!**

"I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me, and the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the son of God who loves me and gave himself for me" (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 united as one; they are one, yet they maintain their own distinctiveness.

- **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

### **One, Yet Two, But One!**

Jesus said in John 17:21, "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." The same oneness that Jesus had with His Father, He prays for us to have and know. It is most important for us to know our oneness with Christ. Jesus interceded earnestly for us in this amazing last prayer. His prayer was for his immediate disciples as well as for His future Church. "That they might be one even as we Father are one!"

## United together in a Single Unity

See how Jesus identified himself throughout His life: "He that has seen me has seen the Father (John 14:9);" "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30). However, He didn't say, "I am the Father". The Father doesn't become the Son, and the Son the Father. Their oneness is not a gray amorphous oneness, for both Father and Son keep their distinctiveness. And the two become one without replacing each other's function. Now this is the same oneness that Jesus prayed. Paul says, "For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones." "...And the two shall be one flesh." (Eph.5:30-31). Jesus and his Father were one, yet two, but one. And this same oneness is ours today as we take it by faith. Oneness is a mystery. How are we one with Christ without becoming Christ? How is it that He unites Himself with our fallen flesh without corrupting His divinity? The answer unravels by seeing that redeemed humans are in union with Christ, who is our oneness. We are held together by a dialectic love-tension of opposites unified by "The Word" "Upholding all things by the Word of His power" and "by Him all things consist" (Heb.1:3; Col.1:17). The Whole universe is held together this way. Negatives and positives in love tension with each other, forming all manifested reality.

There is no oneness outside of being in Christ. The New Age proclaim oneness with God, but it is impossible to be one with God without the Cross of the Son. Nothing but the true oneness with the Father through the Son, Jesus Christ, made known to us by the Holy Spirit will suffice and stand true in the final judgment of all things. All else will sadly be rejected.

### **One, but two, yet one!**

When the Spirit of Divine Love passed through my spirit, then my humanity and the divine form but one single being, one single conception, and one single light. A thing that is "one" has neither commandment nor law. (Therefore) all that is to subsist in God must be freed from its **own** will. It must have no individual fire burning in it; but God's fire must be its fire. Its will must be united to God, that God and the will and spirit of man may be but one. For that which is one is not at enmity with itself, for it has only one will. Wherever it goes, or whatever it does, all is one with it.

God dwells in all things; and nothing comprehends Him, unless it be one with Him. But if it goes out from the one, it goes out of God into itself, and is another god, and separates itself. And here it is that the law arises, that it should proceed again out of itself into the One, or else remain separate from the One. And thus it may be known what is sin, or how it is sin. Namely, when the human will separates itself from God into an existence of its own, and awakens its own self, and burns in its own fire, which is not capable of the divine Fire".<sup>1</sup>

Someone said, "The invisible God is He, the visible God are 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

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<sup>1</sup> Jacob Boehme

became a devil. Whenever the creation tries to become the Creator, he always ends up being a devil.

Take a look at New Age oneness. "It is a oneness in which there is self-seeking and self effort to finally merge into oneness with God. The Eastern religions accomplish this final merging into oneness with God by repetitive cycles of living, reincarnation. Hopefully in some future life you will be able to raise your vibratory rate to resonate with the unity of the cosmic consciousness, a New-Age name for God and you will just trip out into Narvana. **NO CROSS**. Finally, after you've gone through enough reincarnation cycles, through your own Karma, the cause and effect of your own self-seeking to become God, you eventually merge with the one who is "all".<sup>2</sup>

This is an absurdity that should vex your righteous mind, and is **not** the oneness prophesized by Jesus and promised to us Christians by our Heavenly Father. Then what is true oneness about? The invisible God needs visible forms to express Himself through. The divine Spirit joins Himself with our human spirit and the two become one flesh (Eph. 5:30). Again, does that make us God. God Forbid. But curiously when the creation humbly surrenders its vessel-hood to be indwelt by the Creator, we become 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 whom 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, it glows with transparent like illumination. The iron is not the fire and the fire is not the iron, yet the two in union interpenetrates each other and become 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, Christ 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 for us, and in us if we are His.

"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

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<sup>2</sup> [The Cross in the Heart of God](#) by Alan Parker pg. 9

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." <sup>3</sup>

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 program will tell us more.

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<sup>3</sup> Norman Grubb