



dancing with God

1) Introduction - John the Apostle

- a) Wrote one Gospel, Three Epistles and Revelation
- b) Wrote his gospel after synoptic gospels (75-100 A.D.)
- c) Stressed Jesus' deity – Trinitarian Language throughout.
- d) Disciple of John the Baptist
- e) Witnessed Jesus' baptism
- f) Brother of James, son of Zebedee "Sons of Thunder"
- g) Referred to himself as "The disciple whom Jesus loved"

2) Understanding God's Magnificence and Man's Depravity

- a) The Trinity
 - i) Definition- "GOD ETERNALLY EXISTS AS THREE PERSONS, FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, AND EACH PERSON IS FULLY GOD, AND THERE IS ONE GOD." Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology* (Zondervan, 1993) 226
 - ii) God's very essence is relational
 - iii) Peri-choresis - "Peri" is Greek for "around." We get the word "choreograph" from "choresis." The idea is that the three persons of the Godhead "dance around" or "dance within" one another. Their lives are totally intertwined. They move in lockstep with one another because they abide within one another.
 - iv) Why did God create? -God, overflowing with love, desired to have something outside of Himself experience the loving, self-giving, unified relationship He has within the Godhead.
 - v) God created us to "dance" with Him
 - (1) God breathed life (His Spirit) into Adam
 - (a) God created Eve from Adam and gave her life (His Spirit)
 - (b) Adam & Eve were connected to each other and to God by the indwelling Spirit
 - (c) Adam & Eve sinned and they experienced Spiritual death (God's Spirit no longer indwelt them)
- b) Man's Depravity
 - i) Christ Invites Us to Dance Again – Sin Nature Remains
 - (1) Self-Righteous Christian
 - (2) Self-Condemed Christian

3) Experiencing the Dance- The Disciple that Jesus Loves

Overwhelmed by the comprehension of the awesomeness of God's love, your identity is no longer defined by self but is defined as the object of God's love. At the same time you identify other believers purely as fellow disciples loved by God. You experience union with God and other believers without any of the barriers once produced by self.

4) Why “Dancing” is Vital

John 17:20-21 (NASB)

²⁰ "I do not ask on behalf of these (the disciples) alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word (us); ²¹ that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us (“dancing”), **so that** the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:22-23 (NASB)

²² "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;

²³ I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity (“dancing”), **so that** the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me