

ARMED FOR WAR Discipleship Course

SECTION 5 – Intimacy With God

Lesson 19 - The Bride of Christ Part 2

Jesus didn't come just to forgive you of your sins. He didn't come just to get you out of hell. He didn't come just to get you into heaven. He didn't come just to give you eternal life. He came for a much greater purpose. He came to fulfill the eternal purpose of God. The eternal purpose of God from the beginning of the foundations of why God created man was that God would create another being who He could share everything that He is and everything that He has with for all of eternity.

Jesus came to redeem us from the curse of the law, from the curse of sin, from the bondage of death, so that we could then become His bride, and that Christ and the bride, could be joined together and become one.

Colossians 2:9 AMP *For in Him the whole fullness of Deity (the Godhead) continues to dwell in bodily form [giving complete expression of the divine nature].*

You and I are the body and Jesus is the head. We are His body. These are not loose terms He is using. These are the literal things. And He says the entire fullness of the deity, the whole fullness of God, continues to dwell in bodily form. He is the head, we are the body.

Colossians 2:10 AMP *And you are in Him, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead--Father, Son and Holy Spirit--and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rule and authority [of every angelic principality and power].*

You and I in Christ, are filled with the Godhead inside.

Colossians 1:27 *To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

That word glory comes from a very unique Greek word, doxa. It is probably best described as all that God has and all that God is, and not just the totality of everything that God owns; the universe, the earth, and the fullness throughout, and all whom dwell within. Everything that God is, everything that makes God God. The totality of God Himself.

How can you define hope?

[The word hope means a desire with an absolute expectation for fulfillment.](#)

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The Bible says that the mystery of the Gospel is Christ in you and me, the hope of glory. So the mystery of the Gospel is Christ in you, the desire with the absolute expectation for fulfillment that you will have all that God has and all that God is.

John 17:20-21 *I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.*

That they all may be one. He is making for Himself one new man.

Ephesians 5:31 *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh..*

Jesus' heart is: "That they all may be one to the same degree that You Father are in Me, and to the same dimension that I am in You. To the same degree that You and I are one God. Hear O Israel, the Lord thy God is one God. To the same dimension that You are in Me and I am in You, that they may be one in, not next to, not around, but one in Us. Father, I want You to make them the same as Me. I want You to make them one with You, one with Me, one with the Holy Spirit, that they become one flesh with Us. 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 has sent Me."

John 17:22 *And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one*

"All that You are, and all that You possess. Everything You have, Father. Everything that makes You, You. Everything that makes God, God, which You gave to Me I have given it to them. There is nothing that You have Father that I have withheld from them. And there is nothing that You are that I have withheld from them. Father, I came that they may be one. The glory which You gave to Me I gave them. That they may be one even as We are one."

You cannot separate Jesus from the Father, and the Father from Jesus. They are one God. Jesus is praying a prayer which has yet to be fulfilled, but it is going to be fulfilled that you and I and God are going to become joined together in one new eternal being. That we are being brought into the Godhead for the rest of eternity. We are not going to be with God, we are going to be in God. And God will share Himself. He will manifest everything that He is and everything that He has for the rest of eternity through you and me.

*It's the mystery of the Gospel: Christ in you,
the hope of all that God is and all that God has.*

God has lifted us up and elevated us. The Bible says we are seated in heavenly places with Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:6) We are joint heirs with Christ Jesus. We have been adopted. We

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have been brought into God. We are a part of God. That's what He said. Jesus said if any man loves Me he will obey My command, and My Father and I will come and make our permanent home in him. (John 14:15) He is not doing it next to us. He is not doing it around us. He is joining us in Himself for all of eternity. He is elevating us from the position of wretched sinners worthy of hell. He is exalting us up to be a part of the Godhead itself for all of eternity. Jesus left His Father and is joined to His wife, the bride of Christ, and the two shall become one flesh for all eternity. This is why He came.

He is the head. He remains the head just like when a man leaves his father and mother and cleaves to his wife. The wife doesn't rule over the husband. The husband still is the head of the new union. Jesus will always remain the head, He will always remain the authority. We are not becoming another God, we are becoming one with God. This may sound a little new age to you, but new age sounds like this. This is the mystery of the Gospel, which is Christ in you and me, the hope of glory. The hope of being one with Him for all eternity.

It is Jesus prayer that we may all be one to the same dimension that He and the Father are one so that the world may believe that the Father sent Jesus. The glory which the Father gave Jesus, He has given to us; all that the Father is, all that He has, that we would be one even as They are one.

John 17:23 *I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*

God created man so He could share the totality of Himself with and through another. When man sinned, it separated man from God. And God set a plan in motion to redeem man, to bring man back to the original purpose, which is to be one with Him.

Colossians 2:9-10 *For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.*

We see several major feasts that were symbols, foreshadows of spiritual events that were to take place. We see Passover, which spoke of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. We see the Feast of Pentecost which spoke of the events in Acts Chapter 2 when the Holy Spirit filled the Church. But there was another great feast, the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Tabernacles really is the feast that celebrates God with man, God manifested in our midst. That feast is yet to be fulfilled, but it will, and it has to be fulfilled before the return of Jesus Christ.

The mystery of the Gospel is Christ in you, the hope of all that God is and all that God has. What sickness can get in our way, what disease can get in our way, what belittling of man, what circumstance of life when we have been elevated? We are seated in such heavenly places. We have been purchased and bought by the blood of Jesus for such a glorious purpose. This is the good news of the Gospel. This is the Gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:15).

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The word peace in Ephesians 6:15 in the original Greek means at one again. The Gospel of peace is not the Gospel that God is not mad at you anymore. The Gospel of peace is the good news that man and God are one, that God came to make man one with Him.

What revelation do we need to understand regarding God's eternal plan?

We need to get this revelation that God is bringing man into Himself. He is infusing man into the Godhead. He will spend all of eternity expressing Himself through us, and there is no higher position.

Ephesians 1:9-14 AMP *Making known to us the mystery (secret) of His will (of His plan, of His purpose). [And it is this:] In accordance with His good pleasure (His merciful intention) which He had previously purposed and set forth in Him,*

10[He planned] for the maturity of the times and the climax of the ages to unify all things and head them up and consummate them in Christ, [both] things in heaven and things on the earth.

11In Him we also were made [God's] heritage (portion) and we obtained an inheritance; for we had been foreordained (chosen and appointed beforehand) in accordance with His purpose, Who works out everything in agreement with the counsel and design of His [own] will,

12So that we who first hoped in Christ [who first put our confidence in Him have been destined and appointed to] live for the praise of His glory!

13In Him you also who have heard the Word of Truth, the glad tidings (Gospel) of your salvation, and have believed in and adhered to and relied on Him, were stamped with the seal of the long-promised Holy Spirit.

14That [Spirit] is the guarantee of our inheritance [the firstfruits, the pledge and foretaste, the down payment on our heritage], in anticipation of its full redemption and our acquiring [complete] possession of it--to the praise of His glory.

A down payment is a part and a portion of the whole. The Bible says that we have an inheritance. God did not come just to forgive you of your sins. He did not come just to get you out of hell. He did not come just to get you into heaven. He did not come just so you could walk on streets of gold and have a mansion. He did not come just so you could live for eternity. He came for a greater purpose.

We wrongly think our inheritance is the stuff: the gold and jewels and diamonds and riches and wealth and health. Our inheritance is much greater than that. The Holy Spirit is the deposit of our inheritance. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee that we are going to have the full totality of what our true inheritance is. The Holy Spirit is God. Your inheritance is not mansions. Your inheritance is not streets of gold. Your inheritance is not riches. Your inheritance is not health. Your inheritance is not eternal life.

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What is our spiritual inheritance?

Your inheritance is Jesus. It's God Himself. It's all that God is and all that God has. He is our inheritance.

The Bible says we are joint heirs with Jesus. We are joint recipients of the inheritance with Christ Jesus. He is heir of all that God is and all that God has. It's not just the stuff, it is the totality of God Himself. We are His portion. We are His inheritance. And He is our inheritance.

The very fact that we have the Holy Spirit is the proof. It is God's evidence. He has given us His Spirit as a down payment, as a portion, as a guarantee that He is going to give to us all that He is and all that He has. There is nothing that He is, nothing that He has, and nothing that makes Him God that He is not going to share with us for all eternity.

*The mystery of the Gospel is Christ in you,
the hope of all that God is and all that God has.*

Your inheritance is Jesus. That is why Paul said he considers all things rubbish, but this one thing he does is to forget those things which are behind in order to press on towards the high mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13)

What is that calling? That we may know Him in the power and the resurrection and the fellowship of His suffering. (Philippians 3:10) We are to be just like Jesus. We are to be conformed into His image.

The Bible says we have been predestined by God to be conformed into His image. He is not going to make us just like Him. He is making us a part of Him. He is infusing us into Himself. We have been predestined to become one with Him for eternity.

How much time we have wasted running around doing nothing down here. How much time we have wasted running around trying to entertain ourselves with junk down here. How much time we have spent doing just stuff that has no eternal value, not understanding what God has called us to. He suffered and died so we could be one, and He could have one to share Himself with for all of eternity. All that He is and all that He has, He gave to us. Jesus is our inheritance.

Set your eyes on things above, not on earth. He is our inheritance. He has predestined from before the foundations of the world that you and I should become one with Him forever. This is the mystery of the Gospel: Christ in you and me, the hope of all that He is. And you are in Him,

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made full and have come to fullness of life. In Christ you too are filled with the Godhead: the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit.

For Further Study:

Ephesians 2:6 AMP And He raised us up together with Him and made us sit down together [giving us joint seating with Him] in the heavenly sphere [by virtue of our being] in Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

Romans 12:5 *so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.*

Galatians 3:28 *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*