

Eternity with the Father and the Son

John 17:3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

This study seeks to explore the relationship we have with the Father and the Son and seeks to show the necessity to make it a priority in our lives. There is no other important matter than to be at one with them both. It is a matter of salvation. Christ came to reveal and promote the relationship we should and need to have with the Father and with him.

The Father was hidden from mankind, especially in the old testament. In the gospel message Christ brought to light the nature and person of the Father. He said to all his followers that if see me you see the Father. In other words, the Father actually walked among us through his Son, by proxy, if you will. The scripture says that Yahshua is the expressed image of the Father. He was identical to the Father in all his ways. He had his own will and personality but was in perfect harmony with the Father.

When reading the scriptures of the new testament one is stuck with the numerous passages that Christ talks about concerning the Father. It was the foremost thought on his mind. Even from his youth he said that he was to be about his Father`s business. He must have promoted the knowledge of the Father to others to a certain extent even as a youth without revealing who he was before the time.

In today`s gospel message there is little discussion on the role the Father plays in the lives of believers. Lip service is paid but very little if any in-depth discussions thereof. The sacrifice of Yahshua is the central teaching of the gospel. Paul, says that he preached Christ and him crucified but also spoke to the philosophers on Mars` hill about the unknown God, which is the Father. So, Paul recognized and preached both in the godhead.

There needs to be a revival of the role the Father plays in the gospel and in the lives of the individual believer. Everything emanates from the Father, he is the point of origin of all things. The Son is the conduit or channel through which the Father works out all things to the pleasure of his good will. What has taken place in the present gospel is the the true configuration of the relationship between the Father and the Son has been distorted and has made Christ the point of origin of all things. The focus is on the Son with the exclusion of the Father. While the Father exalts the Son above all the names of heaven and earth the Son exalts the name of the Father above himself. That is not the case in today`s message. If it were there would be more emphasis on the name of the Father. Instead the name of the Son is promoted more than the name of the Father.

By making these statements I'm not saying that the sacrifice of Yahshua be not preached and praised however, I feel that the original gospel written down by the Apostles show a different message being preach today. An effort to restore that message needs to take place. That is the purpose of why I 'am motivated to write about the Father.

It is my observation that the brethren of the churches of god have also been affected by this modern message. A discussion of the role the Father plays in our lives and the refences to the Father in their conversation reflect a lack of awareness and love for the Father in their lives. So, I feel that this material concerning the Father that is available to you is an important resource to help in restoring the awareness of the Father in your lives.

Paul says that we should pray for the knowledge of the Father through the Son to be revealed to us on a regular basis. But, sadly, I have observed a lack of interest by many brethren in seeking that revelation from the Father about his ways. It seems that there is a mindset that we have heard it all before and as a result have become dull of hearing and lackadaisical in their approach to this salvational issue. Knowing about the Father is more important than other aspects of the scriptures we study into. These studies have there place but should be subservient to the study and knowledge of the Father. He is the one who gives wisdom and understanding to the individual like oceans cover the earth. It is much easier to gain deep understanding from the scriptures if you have an abiding relationship with the Father, once again, through the Son. If you do not have that interest in an abiding relationship, inspirational thoughts will diminish and one will not be able to receive progressive revelations from the source of all knowledge. I have experienced this first hand in my spiritual life by seeing the difference between inspiration and trying to gain understanding without that supernatural help.

The concept of the Father being all in all is an important concept to meditate on in our thinking day to day. The scriptures point out to us that all saved mankind will be working by the direction of the will of the Father in their lives. It is a major function of our conduct to submit our will to the Fathers will as we lives our lives day to day and year to year. It is once again my observation that many brethren do not think about this concept very deeply. The cares of this world take precedent to the spirit world. A Laodicean attitude is much prevalent in the churches of god today. There is much talk about the football game or the Olympics than about the understanding of the Father in many circles of fellowship. As the parable of the sower and the see show us the seed of the word of God falls mostly on unproductive good not good ground. Many are called but few are chosen.

We need to be ‘the chosen’ in the parable of the sower and the seed and in many other parable and sayings of Father through Christ. These are admonitions and warnings that one cannot just coast into the kingdom of God on someone else’s coattails or lack of interest on our part. The attitude must be that of a pearl of great price of a seeking and you shall find attitude. If these qualities are not part of our agenda then the chances of us being in the kingdom are slim. Why would you want to be in an environment where these spiritual concepts are part of the daily life of its residences. By not showing interest in these things, now, in this life why would we be interested in the Kingdom. It is just to be living as a spirit being and not dying that is the motivating factor? There has to be more depth than that to be called a firstfruit.

The concept of oneness with the Father and the Son is also a very important issue to consider when mediating on the relationship we are supposed to have in this life with them. Christ said that when we are converted both the Father and the Son will take up residence with you in this life. That suggest a sharing of conversation and ideas and a fellowship that is in a family setting. It opens up the godhead to include us as Sons and Daughters of the most high. The same example Christ set of the Father dwelling in him and he in the Father give us motivation to do the same thing. Once again, a close nit bond produces many desired effects in the life of the believer. There is a noticeable difference in the way we behave towards others, including the brethren, when in this mindset. The divine nature is communicated to our spirit our mind or inner man and becomes part of our thinking. Our minds are transformed from carnal thoughts to divine thoughts and as a result our behavior changes accordingly. The renewal process occurs as a direct result of this relationship. The mind that was in Christ is now becoming a part of our own mind. Having the law of sin and death in us we are still subject to sinful thoughts but the renewal process replaces those thoughts with godly thoughts. The spirit empowers us with strength to overcome sin in our lives.

So, our job is that we must abide in the Father and the Son. The individual must exercise a desire to want to remain faithful or committed to this relationship for it to produce fruit. There must be an effort on the part of the individual to try to maintain his part of the process. Some say that all we have to do is just accept the sacrifice of Christ and there is nothing you have to do to maintain this relationship. It is all done for you by the sacrifice of Yahshua. This concept is contrary to scripture Paul specifically takes about putting out sin from our lives. He talks about cleaning the flesh and spirit of filthiness. He himself worked at subduing the bodily desires he experienced. So, we have to exercise diligence and abide or remain steadfast in contact spiritually with the Father and the Son. It is evident that the godhead will not force their presence on anyone. There is free will associated with this relationship which places the responsibility on the individual to make the decision to be a part of the oneness of Elohim. Having said this, it also is revealed that we are empowered by the holy spirit to be abiding.

We of our own selves cannot achieve this oneness without help from our advocate which emanates from the Father through the Son.

Considering these concepts, we will find as we mature in the spirit a fulfilling of the Righteousness of the Law of God in our lives. We will have works that reflect the divine nature being formed within us. It will become more natural to do good works associated with our Faith. And the motives of the giving will be in humility and pure thoughts. The characteristics enumerated in the Sermon on the mount will be in abundance and will appear in our lives without necessarily having to read them. They will become part of our nature and we will be a living epistle of the gospel or the ways of the Father and the Son.

Living with the Father and the Son is the ultimate goal we can achieve in this life and the life to come. All our physical achievements fade away and become like the dust in the wind. Achieving goals is well and good but the emphasis on them should be secondary to the seeking of a spiritual relationship with the Father and the Son. The World seeks after those things that occupies their time and their thoughts. Spiritual concepts are left to the philosophers and religious people. Fulfilling selfish desires is the goal of the majority of people today. An unhealthy focus on the self is what is the norm or primary aspect in today's society. Paul says the same thing in timothy when he prophecies that men will be lovers of themselves not of God in the last days. We on the other hand are the "called-out ones. We have been chosen by the Father and drawn to Christ to be separate or sanctified from the world. Finding ourselves following its ways directly conflicts with the ways of the Father and the spirit inside of us. We need to diminish the importance the world means to us and direct our achieving to the relationship that will be with us for eternity. Living into eternity means giving up the desires of the world. Many people want to have it all. They want to have both. A great life in this world filled with goods and services and the great things in the next life for eternity.

Unfortunately, they are mistaken. The scriptures do not support a wonderful life with all the goods thing this world can offer. It shows that those called-out ones denied themselves of the good life in favor of what was revealed to them in the future. Hebrew's chapter 11 speaks of these believers and shows the hardships they had to endure in this life in exchange for eternity. The disciples even said to Christ; what reward are going to have in the future? We have giving up our houses and families for the gospels sake. He told them that they would lack these things in this life but have many riches in the kingdom, even mansions. The focus was on the kingdom first and the cares of the life second. We have lived with this concept for many years perhaps, once again, it has become dull to our hearing. We cannot have it both ways as some have surmised.

There is a penalty one pays when one thinks in this manner. The cares of this world Christ says; choke-out the working of the holy spirit in our lives. It goes hand and hand. It` a law of the spirit. The cares of this world will affect the relationship we can have with the Father and the Son. It will take precedence and cause us to have more a relationship with the world than with the Father. I`m not saying to become a monk or sister in the convent but all things should reflect a consideration of how our goals are in harmony with the Father`s goals as shown in the Gospel.

We are supposed to be lights in the world and go about our business as an example or Ambassador of the kingdom of God. But as a soldier we should not get entangled with the affairs of the world to our detriment. Being involved with the affairs of the world are those who are of the world no those sanctified or called-out ones. That`s our job to be unspotted from the world. One who is deeply involved in the politics and the corporate world know that this lifestyle will consume the individual and be in direct conflict with the desires of the Father in our lives. He commissions us to not be a part of the inner workings of the world. To be friends with the world is to be enemies of the Father. That is a very clear directive. It is an unmistakable attitude the Father has toward the World but in many circle of the brethren it is not taken seriously. Once again, this “rich and increased with goods mindset from the Laodicean church is the prevailing attitude. Unfortunately, that attitude is not taken lightly by the Father and the Son. Christ in those passages concerning the church in Revelation speak in some causes to spewing them out of his mouth and in some cases removing their candlestick. That`s a very serious judgement to those considering a friendship with the world and a lack of desire to Overcome the world and also our own sinful desires. Let us consider these thoughts and change our lives accordingly

This letter is an admonishment to take our calling seriously and not let us become the foolish virgins that were not able to go into the wedding supper because they lacked the oil. Even if Christ does not return in our lifetimes we all must certainly die. We don`t know when that might happen. It could be as early as tomorrow. We don`t have eternity to make the changes necessary to be in the wedding supper We need to makes the necessary changes today.

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

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