Introduction to One-ness with God

Chapter 2

What is most important to God? It is not to love Him? What was the purpose of our creation? Was it not so that He would have someone to love and to love Him back?

DT 6:1 "These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, [2] so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all His decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. [3] Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you."

DT 6:4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. [5] Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul (mind and emotions) and with all your strength. [6] These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. [7] Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. [8] Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. [9] Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

Now the question is how do we know we are loving God? Here is what Jesus says.

JN 14:15 "If you love Me, you will obey what I command. [16] And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- [17] the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. [18] I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. [20] On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him."

He says here that loving God is to be obedient to God. Then He says that He would not leave us as orphans, without a Father and a Helper.

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Why is it so important that He gives us the Counselor—Helper—the Spirit of Truth? When Jesus departed this world to be with our Father, He left us with the final and most important command: The greatest obedience to God is the fulfilling of the Great Commission.

MK 16:15 "He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. [16] Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

MK 16:17 "And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; [18] they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.""

MK 16:19 "After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was taken up into heaven and He sat at the right hand of God. [20] Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed His word by the signs that accompanied it."

Also:

MT 28:16 "Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. [17] When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted. [18] Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. [19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.""

And then John goes on to say about us.

JN 14:9 "Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. [11] Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [12] I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14] You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it."

How are we to fulfill the Great Commission? Can we do it by ourselves? Are we supposed to do it by ourselves? The answer is in John 14, 15, and 16. We do it with God, with Jesus and with the Holy Spirit. Here is what Jesus says about what the disciples were to do before they could start doing the Great Commission.

AC 1:1 "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach [2] until the day He was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen. [3] After His suffering, He showed Himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. [4] On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. [5] For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

AC 1:6 "So when they met together, they asked Him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?""

AC 1:7 "He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority. [8] But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.""

The full purpose of the Helper, Holy Spirit is to help us to fulfill the great commission. Jesus says that we are to preach the Good News throughout the world. That to do this He has given us all Authority under heaven that is His. He has given us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to do His work and to continue doing the miracles that He started and in continuing, we will do greater things then He did. He specifically says for them to wait until the Holy Spirit comes on them with power and authority, for like Jesus, it was not Him who did the miracles, but the Holy Spirit in Him.

- JN 2:1 "On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, [2] and Jesus and His disciples had also been invited to the wedding. [3] When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to Him, "They have no more wine."
- JN 2:4 "Dear woman, why do you involve Me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."
 - JN 2:5 "His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever He tells you.""
- JN 2:6 "Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons."
- JN 2:7 "Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim."
- JN 2:8 "Then He told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet. They did so, [9] and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside [10] and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now.""

But how to we receive this power and authority? Today like in the times of Jesus, John 14, 15, 16 and 17 makes it certain how to receive this power and authority.

JN 14:9 "Jesus answered: "Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. [11] Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [12] I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14] You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it."

JN 14:15 "If you love Me, you will obey what I command. [16] And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever--[17] the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you. [18] I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. [19] Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will

live. [20] On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you. [21] Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him.""

In Luke Jesus says:

- LK 11:5 "Then he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and he goes to him at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, [6] because a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him."
- LK 11:7 ""Then the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children are with me in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' [8] I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because of the man's boldness he will get up and give him as much as he needs."
- LK 11:9 ""So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. [10] For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."
- LK 11:11 ""Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? [12] Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? [13] If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!""

But Jesus has a condition to giving the Holy Spirit: you must want to be one with God.

- JN 15:1 "I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener. [2] He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. [3] You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. [4] Remain in Me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. **Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.**"
- JN 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8]

This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples."

JN 15:9 "As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. [10] If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love. [11] I have told you this so that My joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. [12] My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. [13] Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. [14] You are My friends if you do what I command. [15] I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. **Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from My Father I have made known to you.** [16] You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit-fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in My name. [17] This is My command: Love each other."

This is how Jesus did it all.

JN 14:9 "Jesus answered: "Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? [10] Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just My own. Rather, it is the Father, living in Me, who is doing His work. [11] Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. [12] I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. [13] And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. [14] You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it."

JN 15:26 "When the Counselor (Helper) comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, **the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, He will testify about Me**. [27] And you also must testify, for you have been with Me from the beginning.

JN 16:12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. [13] But when He (The Helper), the Spirit of truth, comes, **He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.** [14] He will bring glory to Me by taking from what is Mine and making it known to you. [15] All that belongs to the Father is mine. **That is why I said the Spirit will take from what is Mine and make it known to you.**

Jesus did nothing that was not from our Father. Everything He did was because He was one with God. And now He says we can do it and more then He. Why, because if we remain in Him and He in us, we can ask what we want and He will do it.

So all people are called to come into the presence of God, because we are all called to become one with God, but not all people make it, for the path to One-ness is a very small and narrow road. It is not automatic. As a Christian we are saved, yes, but that is not One-ness with God. A Christian is being "Born again", receiving a new, clean and pure spirit from God, and everyone can be baptized in the Holy Spirit where the Holy Spirit lives and fills our every being with Himself, but that is still not One-ness with the Lord God our Father.

So what is this One-ness with the Lord?

It is a special gift of God for those who are willing to dedicate themselves as a living sacrifice to the Lord. Those who are willing to dedicate themselves as to be one with Him and to live for Him and always obey Him. And when we finally come to that place, He will reward us with this One-ness with Him and open the Kingdom of God and the Holy of the Holies to them and reveal all of Himself and His Kingdom to them. Only at this point will we touch His heart and move Him,

JN 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8] This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples."

Again, here is the key to fulfilling the Great Commission.

JN 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not remain in Me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. [7] *If you remain in Me and My words remain in you*, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you. [8] This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples."

"If you remain in Me and My words remain in you..." I have been seeking all my Christian life to understand this. I have been seeking to find out "How" to do this. This is the secret of Spiritually by standing in the presence of God.

Remember, that Jesus is the word of God made flesh, and then He was made immortal in His resurrection. His presence is made in us through His oneness with Our

Father through the Holy Spirit, and it is the Holy Spirit that lives within us with our purified and cleansed spirit by the blood of Jesus.

At the beginning we started this discussion with "What is important to God?" But we end with this One-ness concept, why? Because Jesus has been teaching us what God considers true Love.

JN 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."

Then He goes on to explain what He believes is love.

JN 14:15 "If you love me, you will obey what I command. ... [21] Whoever has My commands and obeys them, he is the one who loves Me. He who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I too will love him and show Myself to him."

JN 14:23 "Jesus replied, "If anyone loves Me, he will obey My teaching. My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. [24] He who does not love Me will not obey My teaching. These words you hear are not My own; they belong to the Father who sent Me."

JN 15:9 "As the Father has loved Me, so have I loved you. Now remain in My love. [10] If you obey My commands, you will remain in My love, just as I have obeyed My Father's commands and remain in His love."

Jesus teaches that love and obeying God's commands go together. He says that this is how we know we love Him, that we obey His commands and teachings. These commands and teachings are not just one or two, but a life style that is of the Kingdom of God. And so one of this is the Great commission, but if you look at all of the teachings and commands you will see that they are all to prepare us for being part of the Great Commission.

So we have a full circle, that is if we love God we will fulfill His teachings and if we fulfill His teachings, we are loving God.

Now that we know what God wants and we know a little of how He wants to do it, we need to look at the process of how to do this.

We can start with the great example of Jesus, many of the things He did, He did not for Himself—I mean He is God so why did He have to do things that only we as humans need to do—He did them only as an example for us.

How did Jesus become One with God? Remember He said,

JN 2:4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My time has not yet come."

When His mother asked for His help He was reluctant because He had not fulfilled His necessary process. So to continue His process, He went to John the Baptist. He went to be baptized for repentance of sins, but He had no sins, nor did He ever sin. He did it as an example and fulfillment of God's obedience.

- MT 3:13 "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. [14] But John tried to deter Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and do You come to me?""
- MT 3:15 "Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented."
- MT 3:16 "As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. [17] And a voice from heaven said, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.""

Then after He was baptized He continued the process.

MT 4:1 "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. [2] After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. [3] The tempter came to Him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.""

So Jesus allowed Himself to be tempted, so that He would know what it is like so that He can understand what we go through. For it is the same with us, that as soon as we become born again, we are severely tempted by the devil to reject God and His ways. And he never stops. He is always tempting us from then until we die. This is why God teaches us to do what He does teach us, so that we can fight the devil when he attacks us like this.

So then only after Jesus proves His faith in God, does Our Father release Jesus to go and start fulfilling the Great Commission.

MT 4:17 "From that time on Jesus began to preach, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.""

Lets review the process of Jesus to become One with God.

1. At the given time,

- 2. He went to John the Baptist to be baptized
- 3. He went into the desert
- 4. He fasted for 40 days and nights
- 5. He was tempted by the devil
- 6. He fought the devil by using His faith with the word of God
- 7. He recovered and became One with the Father
- 8. He began to preach

Now we will use this as a model for us. We will add to it what God asks us to do because we are different from Jesus—we are not God.

To further understand about one-ness with God, we have gone into more detail in the next chapter.

Meantime, <u>this link</u> is the whole scripture of John 14, 15, 16 and 17 so you can see it as it was written for your better understanding.

Intro to One-ness with God