

Week 13 – February 7, 2024
Notes and Quotes
Becoming One with Self, God, & Others

D&C 20:30-31

Brigham Young, *Journal of Discourses 2:134.*

Again, I can charge you with what you will all plead guilty of, if you would confess the truth, viz., you dare not quite give up all your hearts to God, and become sanctified throughout, and be led by the Holy Ghost from morning until evening, and from one year's end to another. I know this is so, and yet few will acknowledge it. I know this feeling is in your hearts, as well as I know the sun shines.... If I were to ask you individually, if you wished to be sanctified throughout, and become as pure and holy as you possibly could live, every person would say yes; yet if the Lord Almighty should give a revelation instructing you to be given wholly up to Him, and to his cause, you would shrink, saying, "I am afraid he will take away some of my darlings." That is the difficulty with the majority of this people. It is for you and I to wage war with that principle until it is overcome in us, then we shall not entail it upon our children.

(Cf. Helaman 3:35; D&C 88:34)

John 17:21-24

Bruce R. McConkie, *A New Witness for the Articles of Faith, 1985, 75.*

"He [Christ] thus possesses the same mind with the Father, knowing and believing and speaking and doing as though he were the Father. This mind is theirs by the power of the Holy Ghost. That is, the Holy Ghost, who is a personage of spirit (a spirit man!), using the light of Christ, can give the same mind to all men, whether mortal or immortal. The saints who are true and faithful in all things have, as Paul said, "the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16), which means also that they have the mind of the Father. It is to the faithful saints that the Holy Spirit bears witness of the Father and the Son, and it is to them that he reveals all things."

B.H. Roberts, *Seventies Course in Theology, 1910, 198.*

The Collective Mind of God

...in every inhabited world, and in every system of worlds, a God presides. Deity in his own right and person, and by virtue of the essence of him; and also by virtue of his being the sign and symbol of the Collectivity of the Divine Intelligences of the universe. Having access to all the councils of the Gods, each individual Deity becomes a partaker of the collective knowledge, wisdom, honor, power, majesty, and glory of the Body Divine—in a word, the embodiment of the Spirit of the Gods whose influence permeates the universe."

(Cf. D&C 38:27; Abraham 3:18-21)

Tad R. Callister, "The Atonement of Jesus Christ"
General Conference, April 2019

I bear my witness that the Savior's Atonement is not only infinite in scope but also individual in reach—that it can not only return us to God's presence but also enable us to become like Him—the crowning goal of Christ's Atonement.

At One Ment

True "at one ment" is knowing as another knows, feeling as another feels, doing as another does; each being the extension and the completion of the other; neither using the other, but each complimenting and completing each other; each drawing from the capacity and strength of the whole in order to do a greater work together than the total of what each could achieve alone – much like the musician who becomes one with his instrument to create a masterpiece. It is the musician who plays, but it is the Spirit that inspires and the instrument who responds to both in order to produce not just sound, but music; that connecting chord that blends numerous notes to create a language that speaks to the soul and unites hearts in a way that transcends logic and reason; gladdening the heart and soothing the soul.

The "at one ment" is the message of the ministry of Jesus Christ. From his pre-mortal beginnings, he learned and became all that the Father taught his children; thus becoming his "Word." With his spirit united with the Father, he came to earth to use his body to express the Father's will in teaching, healing lifting, and blessing others. In Gethsemane the will of His flesh was swallowed up in the will of His Father. Thus united, he took upon his flesh all of the pains, afflictions, temptations, and sins of all of God's children; that he might be one with them in order to know how to succor or help them. Thus burdened, he drew upon his unity with his Father to overcome all and satisfy the demands of justice. Having overcome all that separates each individual from God; he gained power to unite each individual with their Father and the divinity that lies within each individual.

When couples come unto Christ to be one, they create more than life; they create an environment where love can nourish souls to grow to fulfill their divine destiny to become as God is.

When a class comes unto Christ to be one, they can pierce the veil to view the truths of eternity and lift each other to be more Christ-like and selfless.

When communities come unto Christ to be one, they create Zion; a place where righteousness reigns and all are cared for and nourished in order to lift and serve each other.

When countries come unto Christ to be one, they create a world where Gods can dwell, and all creation unites to provide joy, happiness, and the exaltation of each individual. Thus, God's work and glory is fulfilled in the "at-one-ment" of Jesus the Christ.

Dallin H. Oaks, "The Challenge to Become," *General Conference, October 2000*

The Apostle Paul said that persons who have received the Spirit of God "have the mind of Christ" (1 Cor. 2:16). I understand this to mean that persons who are proceeding toward the needed conversion are beginning to see things as our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ, see them. They are hearing His voice instead of the voice of the world, and they are doing things in His way instead of by the ways of the world.

D. Todd Christofferson, "That They May Be One in Us" *General Conference, October 2002*

How glorious it is to contemplate that we have been invited into that perfect unity that exists with the Father and the Son. How can this happen? Pondering this question, it becomes clear that we must begin by becoming one within ourselves. We are dual beings of flesh and spirit, and we sometimes feel out of harmony or in conflict. Our spirit is enlightened by conscience, the light of Christ (see Moro. 7:16; D&C 93:2), and naturally responds to the whisperings of the Holy Spirit and desires to follow truth. But the appetites and temptations to which the flesh is subject can, if permitted, overwhelm and dominate the spirit. Paul said: "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:21–23). . . . Surely, we will not be one with God and Christ until we make Their will and interest our greatest desire. Such submissiveness is not reached in a day, but through the Holy Spirit, the Lord will tutor us if we are willing until, in process of time, it may accurately be said that He is in us as the Father is in Him.

D&C 38:27

D. Todd Christofferson, "One in Christ," *General Conference, April 2023*

Becoming one is a recurring theme in the gospel of Jesus Christ and in God's dealings with His children. With respect to the city of Zion in Enoch's day, it is said that "they were of one heart and one mind." Of the early Saints in the primitive Church of Jesus Christ, the New Testament records, "The multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul." In our own dispensation, the Lord admonished, "I say unto you, be one; and if ye are not one ye are not mine." Among the reasons the Lord gave as to why the early Saints in Missouri had failed to establish a place of Zion was that they "are not united according to the union required by the law of the celestial kingdom." Where God prevails in all hearts and minds, the people are described as "in one, the children of Christ."

Proverbial Pondering

People are like unto instruments in an orchestra. If they follow the direction of the Maestro, they are able to unite together to make music that would unleash and lift mankind to achieve true excellence. All parts working together as one under the direction of the Master create harmonious chords that lift and inspire the soul. Every person's unique tones are needed to create the eternal opus of God.