



The Concept of **ONE**

Jesus spoke of his unity with his Father frequently and he passionately desired that the church be at one with the Father as he is. He said, **“I am not asking on behalf of them alone, but also on behalf of those who will believe in Me through their message, that all of them may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I am in You. May they also be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. I have given them the glory You gave Me, so that they may be one as We are one— I in them and You in Me—that they may be PERFECTLY UNITED, so that the world may know that You sent Me and have loved them just as You have loved Me”** (John 17:20-23).

The oneness spoken frequently in the Bible is about the free will of all creation to unite with God their Father in heaven, embracing His theology, His laws, and His ways of love. The unity goes beyond shoulder-to-shoulder, but pulls all creation tightly together into an intimate relationship of oneness where the unity can never be broken, separated or divided, rather eternally bound.

The concept of one begins with free will. God does not force His creation to choose righteousness, He teaches them to choose and He encourages everyone to choose His theology, His laws, His ways of love. God is building a kingdom of created beings who choose willingly the ways of love.

Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of an individual who exercises free will and chooses every time to live righteously.

JESUS CHRIST: AN INDIVIDUAL

Jesus Christ is the Son of God who through the power of his Father, created everything in heaven and earth (Colossians 1:16 and I Corinthians 8:6) and yet, when the time came to save mankind, he was willing to give up his **position** as a unique Son of God in heaven and his **glorious eternal body** to become a mere mortal.

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but **emptied Himself**, taking the form of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in **appearance as a man**, He **humbled Himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross**” (Philippians 2:5-7).

This Son of God was beaten, scourged and nailed to a cross for the sins of mankind. He only felt that excruciating pain. He only lived the life of mortals on earth, so he only is qualified to be the merciful mediator for mankind. Before his Father in heaven, he comes to plead our mercy.

“For there is one God, and there is **one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus**” (I Timothy 2:5).

Jesus Christ is the covering for mankind and he personally comes before the Father to advocate for mankind. The Father did not experience Jesus’ life on earth and He relies on His Son’s advice in dealing with mankind. “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you will not sin. **But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate before the Father—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One**” (John 6:38).

Jesus Christ is a compassionate individual, unlike Satan—our adversary who comes before God to highlight the sins of mankind and their hopelessness in righteousness.

“One day the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came with them. ‘Where have you come from?’ said the LORD to Satan. From roaming through the earth,’ he replied, ‘and walking back and forth in it.’ Then the LORD said to Satan, ‘Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one on earth like him, a man who is blameless and upright, who fears God and shuns evil’” (Job 1:5-7). This was the beginning of Satan mocking Job’s righteousness and declaring, without proof that Job’s obedience to God was purely selfish.

Yet, Jesus Christ, while mankind was truly pitiful sinners, gave his life for them to open the door again for eternal life and the great honor of being adopted children of God in the royal and holy God family. “But God proves His love for us in this: **While we were still sinners, Christ died for us**” (Romans 5:8). God our Father proved his love for the creation on earth, by allowing His unique beloved Son to be taken from Him and suffer beyond human endurance beatings and scourging so that the price could be paid for mankind. If God’s love were less, He would have allowed the death sentence for mankind.

Christ was willing to be the individual who would suffer and no other. The creation in heaven and on earth was created by him and for him (Colossians 1:16). This is his creation and he works to save it. His suffering is part of the greater story within their grand plan.

By design, Christ is the living example of perfection achieved by experiencing the victory of righteousness through suffering as mortals do on earth and the victory of righteousness by experiencing the torment that the righteous heavenly creation experience by Satan and his rogue heavenly rulers, powers and authorities of Ephesians 6:12 who relentlessly oppose them.

When that rogue heavenly force is taken down, God's people and the creation in heaven will rejoice. The king of Babylon, the rogue heavenly ruler by that name is a beast yet to be overthrown. "On that day the LORD gives you relief from suffering and turmoil and cruel bondage, you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon: How the oppressor has come to an end! How his fury has ended! The LORD has broken the rod of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers, which in anger struck down peoples with unceasing blows, and in fury subdued nations with relentless aggression. All the lands are at rest and at peace; they break into singing. **Even the pine trees and the cedars of Lebanon exult over you and say, 'Now that you have been laid low, no woodsman comes to cut us down'**" (Isaiah 14:3-8).

The "pine trees" and the "cedars of Lebanon" are descriptors for powerful righteous leaders in the realm in heaven who are tormented by Satan and his rogue coalition.

When Satan and his angels are thrown down to earth, the heavenly creation will rejoice, but in great distress, they will cry, "But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you!" (Revelation 12:12b)

Christ's experiences are his alone; like every individual on earth. Everyone has different life experiences.

THE FAITHFUL CHURCH: INDIVIDUALS

Mankind struggles to understand life in the realm of heaven and the torment they suffer; it is like looking through a coke bottle. To help mankind until it is time to roll back the sky, God has created imagery such as the human body with a head and a body of many parts all working as one to illustrate the functionality of unity that God has in mind.

Christ's saving sacrifice awards him the pre-eminence as the head of the righteous single entity still in the making. Repentant mankind is imaged as the body. All members are individuals, yet working as one so intimately that they appear as a single, complex, highly functioning organism.

"The body is **a unit**, though it is **made up of many parts**; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So, it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is **not made up of one part but of many**" (I Corinthians 12:12-41).

"Now **we are the body of Christ**, and **each one of you is part of it**" (I Corinthians 12:27).

JESUS CHRIST: FREE WILL

God the Father is the source of all power, through Him, the Son created everything in heaven and on earth (Colossians 1:16). The Father does not force His will on creation. Freely, all creation makes choices, including the Son who chose freely to die for mankind.

“No one can take my life from me. **I sacrifice it voluntarily.** For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For **this is what my Father has commanded**” (John 10:18).

Christ listened to His Father and the salvation plan for mankind. The penalty of sin has always been death. But, for mankind on earth the gift of grace could be offered, once the penalty was paid. Heavenly workings are foreign to earthly workings. The scale of this project is impossible as an earthly undertaking. Willingly, the Son accepted the heavy task knowing that God the Father is all wise and foreknowing, trusting His Father unconditionally he consented.

Christ has his own will, but when he came to earth he did the will of his Father in heaven. “For I have come down from heaven, **not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me**” (John 6:38).

When Jesus anticipated the excruciating pain of his death, he asked his Father if there was another way, but it wasn't his will that he chose. Jesus said, “Not my will be done, but yours” (Luke 22:42).

THE FAITHFUL CHURCH: FREE WILL

God said to ancient Israel many, many times, “Choose life!” He loves mankind and wishes no one to die. “For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live” (Ezekiel 18:32).

Like a loving parent correcting a child, God gave His people blessings when they lived righteously and curses when they did evil. God pleaded with His people to turn from sin and love one another. “Cast away from yourselves all the transgressions you have committed, and **fashion for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. Why should you die, O house of Israel?**” (Ezekiel 18:31).

JESUS CHRIST: LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY

Mankind has not seen the growth of iniquity in heaven and the suffering it has caused. The scriptures reveal important pieces to the story in heaven. Battles have been fought and won by Jesus Christ evidenced by the many crowns he wears awarded to him by the Father. “Before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and **on his head are many crowns... his name is the Word of God**” (Revelation 19:11-13).

This Son is the Father's pride and joy! He is the loved One. In great pleasure the Almighty God announced to all in heaven and earth, “But about the Son, ‘Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom. **You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;** therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy’” (Hebrews 1:8-9).

Jesus Christ does not disappoint. He is the tested stone. "So, this is what the LORD God says: 'See, I lay a stone in Zion, **a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation**; the one who believes will never be shaken'" (Isaiah 28:16).

He will not rest until all wickedness is destroyed and he has restored things to how they were before iniquity was found. Then in great humility, he will bend his knee before his Father. "For he must reign until **he has put all his enemies under his feet**...When he has done this, then **the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him**, so that God may be all in all" (I Corinthians 15:25, 28).

THE FAITHFUL CHURCH: LIVING RIGHTEOUSLY

Choosing to obey the Father and live righteously is the choice of the faithful church. Regardless of the opposition, persecution or martyrdom, they will remain faithful holding tightly onto the testimony of Jesus and obeying God's commands; God will finish His work in them. They will be without scriptural misunderstandings and misconceptions. "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to Himself as **a glorious church, without stain or wrinkle or any such blemish, but holy and blameless**" (Ephesians 5:25b-27).

Like the 144,000 of Revelation, Christ's bride will be blameless (Revelation 14:5). The Apostle Paul worked hard to teach the church. "I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. For **I promised you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ**" (II Corinthians 11:2).

The righteousness that God desires, is the righteousness of Christ. Christians live to put away their own ways and to allow Christ in them. "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his spirit in your inner being, **so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**; and that you, being **rooted and grounded in love**, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know **the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God**" (Ephesians 3:17-19).

"Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him the glory. For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and **His bride has made herself ready. She was given clothing of fine linen, bright and pure.**" For the fine linen she wears is the righteous acts of the saints" (Revelation 19:7-8).

GOD THE FATHER: INDIVIDUAL, THE ONLY CORONATOR, SOURCE OF ALL POWER

There is no individual greater than God himself. "When God made his promise to Abraham, since **there was no one greater for him to swear by, he swore by himself**, saying, 'I will surely bless you and give you many descendants'" (Hebrews 6:13-14).

God the Father is unique. He alone holds invincible powers. "**He alone is immortal and dwells in unapproachable light**. No one has ever seen Him, nor can anyone see Him. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen" (I Timothy 6:16).

The two Gods sit side-by-side. Scriptures state that it is the only Son who has seen the Father. Then, both creations in heaven and on earth have not seen the Father—yet. “No one has ever seen God, **but the one and only Son**, who is Himself God and is **at the Father's side**, has made Him known” (John 1:18).

God, the Father reigns supreme. “For he ‘has put **everything under his feet**’. Now when it says that ‘everything’ has been put under him [Christ], **it is clear that this does not include God himself**, who put everything under Christ” (I Corinthians 15:27).

God the Father is the only individual who knows when He will give Jesus Christ the green light to return. “About that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, **nor the Son, but only the Father**” (Matthew 24:36).

God the Father is the only individual to award titles, give rulership, and anoint priests.

He alone coronated Jesus Christ above all living in heaven and earth and He only awards rulership. “His Son, whom **he appointed heir of all things... he [Christ] sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven**. So, he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs... [the Father] set you [Christ] above your companions” (Hebrews 1:2, 4, 9b).

Whatever battle is being fought to take God’s kingdom by force by rogue heavenly rulers, powers and authorities, the outcome is known. The Supreme King God has foretold that this kingdom will be awarded to the saints. “As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and prevailing against them, until **the Ancient of Days arrived and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for them to possess the kingdom**” (Daniel 7:21-22) and “Then **the sovereignty, dominion, and greatness of the kingdoms under all of heaven will be given to the people, the saints of the Most High**. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will serve and obey Him.’ **That is the end of the matter**” (Daniel 7:27-28a).

So, God the Father has the final say and that is the end of the matter!

The Father welcomes His Son’s presence and shows Daniel future events that gave him hope during his time in captivity. “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one **like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, power and sovereign power; all people’s nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed**” (Daniel 7:13-14).

The Father anointed His Son the title of High Priest in the order of Melchizedek before time, itself. “This Melchizedek was king of Salem and priest of God Most High. He met Abraham returning from the defeat of the kings and blessed him, and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything... **Without father or mother, without genealogy, without beginning of days or end of life, like the Son of God he remains a priest forever**” (Hebrews 7:1-2a, 3).

“Therefore, since **we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens** [in the Holy of Holies], **Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess**” (Hebrews 4:14).

The Son created everything in heaven and on earth by the power of his Father (I Corinthians 8:6), but the grand plan for a kingdom for his Son was carefully engineered by the Father. The creation is the work of the Father’s hands and His purpose. “For **we are God’s workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance as our way of life” (Ephesians 2:10) and “Yet you, **LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand**” (Isaiah 64:8).

God the Father has a purpose for every person who has ever lived, and lives and is yet to be born on earth. “And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, **who are called according to His purpose**. For those **God foreknew**, He also **predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren. And **those He predestined, He also called; those He called, He also justified; those He justified, He also glorified**” (Romans 8:28-30).

Wayward ancient Israel will be resurrected and stand among their righteous 21st century descendants in amazement. “For when he sees his children, **the work of My hands among him, they will honor My name, they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and they will stand in awe of the God of Israel**. Then the wayward in spirit will come to understanding, and those who grumble will accept instruction” (Isaiah 29:23-24).

THE CONCEPT OF ONE

God the Father and His Son are both Gods of the God family. One is the Father and the other is the Son. Their relationship is established by their placement in the God family. They work in total unity; they move as one and live in complete peace, unbroken or divided—one. The Apostle Paul taught Christians to “Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. **Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace**. There is **one body and one Spirit**—just as you were called to **one hope** when you were called—**one Lord [Jesus Christ], one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all**, who is over all and through all and in all” (Ephesians 4:16).

Creating this unity is the work of God’s hands. Bringing mankind into repentance and submission with a willing spirit and a heart of flesh comes from God’s Holy Spirit flowing out through Jesus Christ. God’s hands go to work like a potter forming a magnificent and glorious piece of art. God’s work will be done when the fullness of creation on earth is in total harmony with God’s laws and way of love. Then, billions upon billions from creation in both heaven and on earth will be one body under one government embracing one theology; all living as one, but are countless.

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