

THE CONSEQUENCES OF AN OLD TESTAMENT PHILOSOPHY

By: Phillip Hayes

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. [Hebrews 13:5]

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. [Matthew 28:18-20]

I want you to pay close attention to what our Lord said in these two passages of scripture. Everything He says here is powerful, but I would like to extract two very important statements He made for the message I have for you.

In Hebrews chapter thirteen the writer states that Jesus promised, *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee"*. In Matthew chapter twenty-eight verse twenty our Lord said, *"I am with you always, even to the end of the world"*.

If I asked any professing Christian, "Do you believe Jesus is with you now?" They would say, "Yes I do". As a matter of fact, if I asked, "Do you believe Christ is in you?" Again, their reply would be, "Yes."

I am sure you would agree as your reply to both questions would probably be, "Yes". It may surprise you,

but I am somewhat bewildered by the affirmative answers to these questions!

It is evident by most Christian's actions that they really don't believe this! I will qualify this statement a little further along. But first, let's dig a little deeper for more evidence of what Jesus was really saying.

Not only do we find that Jesus promised He would always be with us, He also promised He would be IN US!

Jesus revealed a great mystery when He used the personal pronoun "I" when He promised the coming of the Holy Spirit. *"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."* [St. John 14:16-18].

Beginning in St. John chapter thirteen, verse thirty-one through St. John chapter seventeen, verse twenty-six Jesus taught eleven of His disciples the greatest mystery ever revealed to man. Over four whole chapters of dialog to only eleven men! Whole books and months of teaching could be spent communicating the revelations revealed in these passages.

I will only use a few verses for the purpose of this article. I would encourage every believer to read and meditate on these chapters and let the Holy Spirit open your understanding of the great truths Jesus revealed.

In St. John 14, verse 16, Jesus said the Father would give us another Comforter that would be with us forever. He continued by identifying this Comforter as the Spirit of Truth. He told the disciples the world couldn't receive this Spirit because they couldn't see Him and didn't know Him. He told them however that they knew this Comforter Spirit! Not only did they know Him, He dwelt (lived) with them and

would be in them! Then, in verse eighteen He plainly tells them who this Comforter or Spirit of Truth is! He said, "*I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you*" [St. John 18:18]. Jesus said He is the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth!

This is a great mystery! The disciples just couldn't understand what Jesus was talking about. They asked Him, ". . . . *Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?*" [St. John 14:22]. Jesus explained in verse 23 by saying, "*If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*" We will come unto him? We? Now Jesus is saying both He and the Father will come! Jesus then concludes this portion of the revelation by reaffirming Who the Comforter is, "*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you*" [St. John 14:26].

According to what we have just read, we see clearly what Jesus is revealing to His disciples: After His death, burial, resurrection and ascension back to Heaven, the Father would send another Comforter to replace the physical presence of Jesus. This Comforter would not just be sent to be in the world and advise the believer, but this Comforter would actually come inside the believer and live in the believer.

Who is this Comforter, the Spirit of Truth? The Comforter is the Holy Ghost which is the full manifestation of the Father and the Son living inside every born again believer!

Not only did Jesus reveal how He would come back and live in His believers, He also prayed that we would become one with the Father as He is! "*And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those*

whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are. [St. John 17:11] This is incredible! The disciples would become One with God, just like Jesus and the Father!

But, there is more Jesus prayed for. He also prayed the same prayer for us: *"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 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 hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me" [St. John 17:20-23].* I can hardly contain my joy! You and I, one with God! *"He that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit" [1Corinthians 6:17].*

This is the mystery of God! This is the revealing of the New Covenant God gave us through Christ!

"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah: Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD: But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" [Jeremiah 31:31-34]. Hebrews chapter eight quotes these verses and affirms that Jesus is the Mediator of this better covenant with better

promises. This New Covenant is placed within our inward parts (our inner man). It is the Law of the Spirit!

This is all accomplished by the One Spirit Jesus promised!

- By One Spirit, we are one with the Lord: *"But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit"* [1Corinthians 6:17].
- By One Spirit, we drink and are baptized: *"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit"* [1Corinthians 12:13].
- By One Spirit, we have access to God: *"For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father"* [Ephesians 2:18].
- By One Spirit: *"There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling"* [Ephesians 4:4].

If you are born again and filled with the Holy Ghost, you got it! You have that One Spirit Jesus promised and His prayer has come to pass, you are now one with the Father just as Jesus is One with the Father. *"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?"* [1Corinthians 3:16]. First Corinthians chapter six, verse nineteen says, *"Your body is the temple of God"*. Your spirit is God's! Your body is God's! God is in you! God is not some spirit being conjured up in the imaginations of your carnal mind sitting on a huge throne way beyond the Milky Way! No! God lives in you! You are the temple (the house) of God!

I know we call buildings the House of God. Some have built huge magnificent structures they call God's church. Various religions have built places for God to dwell in hopes God would honor them with His presence. Modern day Jews want to rebuild a temple so God will come and be

with them. But God will never live in anything made with man's hands! He has ordained His dwelling place and He will never live anywhere else. *"Howbeit the most High dwelleth not in temples made with hands; as saith the prophet, Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest? [Acts 7:48-49].* No! God will never live in any man made structure! You are His ordained place of residence!

The great mystery that was hidden for ages has been revealed. *"Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" [Colossians 1:26-27].*

I pray the phrase "Christ in you" has taken on a whole new meaning to you. It's much more than a religious slogan or buzz word. Much more. It is reality. An actual event takes place! It is a supernatural experience that transpires in a born again person's spirit. You are literally translated for one spiritual kingdom into another! *"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son" [Colossians 1:13].*

Wake up my friends! The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in you! *"But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" [Romans 8:11].*

If you are not convinced by now that "Greater is He that is in you" is a statement of absolute truth perhaps this verse will: *"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?" [2Corinthians 13:5].* I trust you are not a reprobate my

friend. Jesus Christ is not the second in command sitting on a cloud wringing His hands, wondering if the devil will win the battle. Jesus Christ has All Power in Heaven and in the Earth. The All Powerful Jesus really does live in you!

I made a statement a few pages ago that I promised to revisit and qualify. This is the statement I made: "It is evident by most Christian's actions that they really don't believe this!" If they believed Jesus lived in them and promised to never leave them, their lives should manifest the reality of His presence. There is a reason His promises are not manifested and it is more than simply not believing. It is because many have developed an Old Testament philosophy. The consequences of such thinking are disastrous!

First of all, it should be obvious by now why I made this statement, but I want to bring your attention to some contrasts between our lives and a few promises found in scripture. Blood washed, Born Again, Holy Ghost Baptized Christians are not behaving themselves as the conquerors the Word of God says they are. *"Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us [Romans 8:37].* Only a few dare walk in the power of authority the Bible claims they have. *"Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases" [Luke 9:1].* And sadly, few realize the power is IN THEM, not up in the heavens somewhere. *"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" [Ephesians 3:20].* Most certainly the majority of Christians never experience the abundant life Jesus promised. *". . . I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly [St. John 10:10].*

Now, what do I mean by Christians having an Old Testament mentality. The saints in the Old Testament did

not have God living in them. For them to get a Word from God they had to find a prophet who would go and inquire of the Lord for them. This is found many times when the kings of Israel would wonder if they should go into battle or not.

They had to find a prophet. The prophet was the Voice of God to the people. God did not speak directly to the people. This is not at all true in the New Covenant. I have already explained this previously. *"I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them (See Jeremiah Chapter 31 and Hebrews Chapter 8).*

It astounds me to know there are multiplied millions of Christians who say they are baptized in the Holy Spirit and have God living in them. Yet, they will drive hundreds of miles to find a prophet to get a word from God! That my friend is Old Covenant thinking!

Somehow they never consider that God is in them ready to speak and lead them by His Spirit. They may pray, but never listen for God to answer.

"The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it" [Luke 16:16]. Also consider this . . . "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets [Hebrews 1:1]. Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son . . ." (Verse 2)

I want you to get this! The Law and the Prophets were until John. After John, the Kingdom is preached. You might want to be under the Law and keep the Sabbaths and feast days and fashion yourself after those in the modern Messianic Jewish movement if you want, but not me! I am a Holy Ghost filled New Covenant Christian who refuses to be under the Law or influenced by those determined to Judaize

God's New Covenant people. The Apostle Paul sternly warned all Christians in his epistle to the Galatians about this anti-christ spirit.

The first chapter of Hebrews leaves little question. God doesn't speak by the prophets any longer. He speaks by His Son! His Son is in you! His Son speaks to you by the Spirit. I thank God for the New Covenant! I thank God I don't have to go to someone claiming to be a prophet to get a word from God. I thank God I can go to my place of prayer and get a word directly from Him that lives in me. My philosophy is line upon line New Covenant teaching.

There is nothing wrong for a Christian to seek the council of Godly praying men and women. However, most folks depend on people who have degrees as Marriage Counselors or so-called Christian Counselors for advice.

There is One however that is far more qualified and that is Jesus, He wants to be your Counselor! Take your trouble to Jesus in prayer believing the answer will come and it will come. There is a still small voice in your inner man that will never lead you astray. You can depend on that Voice!

It is a shame that many Christians think they have to go to drug abuse centers or Alcohol Anonymous to get help when true deliverance is in them. It seems we have become a generation that is given over wholly to the arm of flesh. Instead of believing the prayer of faith will deliver us; it's the best doctor, the best new drug that most look forward to.

This is why I say people have developed an Old Testament mentality. In the Old Testament, God was never to be approached. He was too Holy! He was too far away for mere man to approach.

You know you have been born again. Your entire life changed and your world was turned upside down when you encountered Jesus. He filled you with the Holy Ghost and you were on fire for God. But now, something has

happened. Maybe you failed God in your dedication? Does God seem far away from you? Does He seem unapproachable? Do you look at others around you and assume that the person you see is closer to God than you? Do your misgivings, mistakes and sins make you think that God moves further and further from you each time you mess up? Do you feel disconnected, disjointed from God? Do you need a Word from God?

If your answer is yes to some of these questions you have developed the Old Testament philosophy I am talking about. You have forgotten His promises! He said He would never leave you nor forsake you. You can walk out on Him, but He will never walk out on you and no man can pluck you out of His hand (St. John 10:28,29)! My friend, Jesus knew every mistake and sin you would ever commit and He called you anyway. The Word from God is in you! There is an anointing in you! You have revelation knowledge in you! Quit looking to man. Look to Jesus! *"But ye have an unction (anointing) from the Holy One, and ye know all things" [1John 2:20].*

Oh children of God, if we would just depend on the Spirit of Jesus that is in us, we wouldn't land in the messes we find ourselves in. *"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" [Romans 8:14].* Jesus said, the Spirit would direct us into all Truth and reveal things to come. *"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come" [St. John 16:13].*

Truly, we have found that Jesus Christ is always in us and will always be in us to the very end. He promised it! We can depend on it!

The Mystery of God God in Christ – Christ in You – Perfect Oneness