

# UNION OF BEING

## Ontological Union

### Union with Christ Diagram #1

DISTINCTION ←————→ UNION

Balanced Tension of Dialectic

#### Evangelical Detachment

Evangelicalism emphasizes  
“doing” rather than “being”  
Deistic concept of God -  
detached and separated.  
Transcendence instead of  
immanence.  
“God’s up in heaven;  
I am here on earth.”

#### Objectification

God in heaven is angry.  
Jesus tries to appease.  
Jesus died for sins of man.  
Jesus went to heaven to  
convince Father to impute  
benefits of His death to man  
God willing to “declare right-  
eous” and grant new status,  
standing, and position.  
Christian has ambiguous  
“relationship” with Christ.

#### Double-minded Duality

Two natures in conflict.  
Schizophrenic identity.  
Paranoid motivations.  
Doubts of salvation.  
Emotional experientialism.

#### Concept of “Self”

Self-denigrating/deprecating  
“Just a sinner saved by grace”  
“Still a dirty old man”  
Self-denial; suppression  
Self-surrender, brokenness  
Self-crucifixion, “Die to self”

#### Christ and the Christian

“If any man does not have the Spirit of Christ, he  
is none of His” - Rom. 8:9  
“The Spirit bears witness with our spirit, that we  
are children of God” - Rom. 8:16  
“...the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith  
in the Son of God” - Gal. 2:20b

#### Analogies

vessel/contents analogy - II Cor. 4:7  
branch/vine analogy - Jn. 15:3-5  
house/occupant analogy - II Cor. 5:1  
temple/god analogy - I Cor. 3:16; 6:19  
body/head analogy - I Cor. 12:27; Rom. 12:15  
wife/husband analogy - Eph. 5:24,25,32

#### Indwelling Trinity

God the Father  
“God abides in us” - I Jn. 4:12,15,16  
God the Son  
“Christ lives in me” - Gal. 2:20  
“Christ in you, the hope of glory” - Col. 1:27  
“Jesus Christ is in you” - II Cor. 13:5  
God the Spirit  
“His Spirit who indwells you” - Rom. 8:11  
“Holy Spirit who dwells in us” - II Tim. 1:14

#### Derived Identity

“sons” because Son lives in us - Gal. 4:6,7  
“holy ones” because Holy One lives in us -  
Acts 3:14; 4:27,30  
“righteous” because Righteous One lives in us -  
Acts 3:14; 7:52  
“perfect” because Perfect One lives in us -  
Heb. 7:28

#### Christian fully Human

We retain our “personal individuality” and  
humanity.  
Distinction of “yourself” - Rom. 6:11,13;  
I Cor. 13:5; II Tim. 2:15; II Jn. 8; Jude 21

#### Spiritual Union

“The one who is joined to the Lord is one spirit  
with Him” - I Cor. 6:17

“I have been crucified with Christ, it is no longer  
I who lives, But Christ lives in me” - Gal. 2:20a

#### Partakers:

“partakers of the divine nature” - II Pet. 1:4  
“partakers of Christ” - Heb. 3:1  
“partakers of the Holy Spirit” - Heb. 6:4

#### Fellowship:

“our fellowship with the Father...Son” - I Jn. 1:3  
“called into fellowship with Son” - I Cor. 1:9  
“fellowship with the Spirit” - Phil. 2:1

#### “In Christ”

“By His doing you are in Christ Jesus” - I Cor 1:30  
“Every spiritual blessing in heavenly places in  
Christ Jesus” - Eph. 1:3  
“We are seated in the heavenly places in Christ  
Jesus” - Eph. 2:6

#### Life

“Our life is hid with Christ in God” - Col. 3:3  
“Christ is our life” - Col. 3:4

#### Identity Union

“anyone in Christ, is a new creature” - II Cor. 5:17  
“you have put on new man” - Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10  
“child of God” - Jn. 1:12; Rom. 8:16; I Jn. 3:1,2  
“son of God” - Rom. 8:17; Gal. 3:16  
“saint” - Rom. 8:27; Eph. 1:18; 4:12  
“holy and blameless” - Col. 1:22  
“righteous” - Rom. 5:19; II Cor. 5:21  
“perfect” - Phil. 3:15; Heb. 10:14; 12:23  
“accepted” - Rom. 8:1; 15:7; Eph. 1:6

#### Collective Identity Union

“people of God” - I Pet. 2:10  
“kings and priests” - I Pet. 2:9; Rev. 1:6  
“Body of Christ” - Rom. 12:15; I Cor. 12:13

#### Monistic Merging

Distinction is denied.  
Union is lost in “oneness”  
“God only” exists *in* and *as*  
all things.  
“God is all in all”  
Pantheism, Panentheism  
“Only one Person in the  
universe. (Denial of the  
Trinity)  
“Spirit is the only reality”  
Universalism - Christ is  
intrinsically present in all.

#### False Union

Essential union of man with  
God.  
- equivalence, absorbed,  
consubstantial, merged,  
indistinguishable, fused,  
coalescence.  
Organic Union -  
same organism  
Hypostatic Union  
Christian is deified,  
divinized, supernaturalized

#### View of Humanity

Depersonalized reductionism  
“I am no longer human.”  
“I am not; only He is”  
Obliteration, annihilation,  
dissolution, abandonment,  
displacement, replacement