What is Unitive Christianity?

Unitive: Characterized or tending to produce an act or instance of uniting or joining two or more things into one: Synthesis.

It is ironic that many otherwise enlightened beings in our modern world have very little understanding of the true and unitive nature of Christianity. This is because they lack a fundamental understanding of the nature of religion, and the means by which religions have evolved over time.

First of all, we must recognize that True Christianity is 'Unitive' in nature, and that it is not really a religion at all. Unitive Christianity is a *'state of being'* that was exemplified by a man named Jesus of Nazareth who lived 2,000 years ago. Furthermore, the name lesus Christ is not just the name of that individual, it is the name of the Principle that describes the true psycho-spiritual and physical nature of Jesus, which is also the very nature that every one of us is evolving into. In other words, Jesus Christ is the template of our own perfection, which is essentially the 'personification of the Pres*ence of God*, 'filled with Grace and Truth, and fully active in this world as a center of expression for unconditional Love.

Perhaps the best way to explain this concept is to borrow a convention from the world of science. For example, there is an ancient scientific concept referred to as 'Archimedes Principle,' which explains the phenomena of flotation. This principle was discovered by the Greek philosopher Archimedes, hence it was named after him, and although he died eons ago the principle lives on in his name.

What is important to realize is that Archimedes' Principle is not the man Archimedes, it is an enduring, and unchanging principle that carries his name to this

day. In like manner, Jesus Christ is not the ancient Nazarene named Jesus, it is an enduring, and unchanging Spiritual Principle that lives on in His holy and sacred Name. Additionally, just as we still utilize Achimedes Principle to engineer modern seagoing vessels, then so indeed can we still embrace the living Principle of Jesus Christ to become the *personification of the Presence of God* in our own lives. In other words, we can use the power and the presence of the Principle called Jesus Christ to create good things in our own lives, as well as the lives of others.

Traditional Christianity

There is, of course, a traditional religion called Christianity, which was created by the followers of Jesus, most especially St. Paul. The purpose of this religion is to teach us how to utilize the Principle of Jesus Christ in order to duplicate His nature, and thereby become the personification of the Presence of God in our own lives. In other words, to teach us how to 'live as Love' in this world. Consequently, the fulfillment of the Christian religion is for the spiritual Principle of Jesus Christ to 'come again' from the inside out of us, as a blessing unto the world. Only then can we begin to practice Unitive Christianity, free from all dogmas and dictates associated with organized religions.

Principle of the 'Great Coincidence' Another way to understand the true nature of Jesus Christ is through the concept of coincidence. Unfortunately, most people tend to think of a coincidence merely as an unexpected or accidental event. However, the first definition for the word coincidence is 'the act or condition of coinciding.' Furthermore, to coincide means 'to occupy the same place in time and space.' Additionally, it is defined as 'corresponding in nature, character and function.'

In this light, we could say that Jesus Christ, as the 'principle of the personification of the Presence of God,' represents the great coincidence of a human being and the Divine. In other words, Jesus Christ is the living 'Principle of the Great Coincidence of Man and God.'

The Triune Nature of Jesus Christ As alluded to above, the name Jesus Christ is actually three separate things described by a single name. To begin with, Jesus was a human being. Consequently, traditional Christianity tends to focus primarily on Jesus as a man, seemingly blessed with supernatural powers.

However, we must also consider that the Christ is a Spirit. More succinctly, Christ is the Spirit of God uniquely expressed to serve the evolution of Humanity. There are many who embrace the teachings of Christianity from a more metaphysical standpoint, and tend to focus exclusively on the consciousness of Christ, which is sometimes referred to as 'Cosmic Consciousness.' Consequently, they either ignore, or downplay the person of Jesus.

Of the greatest importance to us all, is the fact that the name Jesus Christ is a Spiritual Principle, and a Principle is a Truth that does not change over time. Consequently, Jesus Christ is the 'Principle of the Personification of the Presence of God,' that has always been, and shall always be, regardless of what we might think or believe... regardless of what we might call it.

Additionally, it should be noted that if we focus exclusively on the name of Jesus we will tend to facilitate the miracle working powers of Moses in order to overcome the difficulties of life. Whereas, if we <u>only</u> dedicate ourselves to Christ we will tend to duplicate the unitive realization of the Buddha in order to end our suffering over the

tribulations of life. However, when we worship the whole name of Jesus Christ we will be lifted up in a way that allows us to live a happy life in this world without the need for miracles to overcome the difficulties that cause us so much suffering. In other words, we don't need a miracle to solve a problem that doesn't exist.

The Balloon of Christ

Perhaps the easiest way to grasp the triune nature of Jesus Christ is through an 'analogy of understanding.' In other words, Jesus Christ is like a hot air balloon. Jesus is the balloon, and Christ is the warm air that fills the balloon, and causes it to rise into the sky. Our body is the basket suspended beneath the balloon, and our personal spirit, or ego l-ness is the passenger that rides in the basket.

Although the balloon can lift us up, and out of worldly tribulations, we have no control over where the balloon might take us. The only real control that we have, is over the burner that warms the air, which fills the balloon and causes it to rise. This burner is like our heart, and the flame that it generates is Love.

Another important aspect of this analogy is to recognize that the Balloon without the Warm Air will take us nowhere. Furthermore, the Warm Air without the Balloon cannot lift us up. In other words, it is by the whole Name and Principle of Jesus Christ that we are lifted up and out of our worldly problems and afflictions.

The lesson of this analogy is simple. When we allow everything, and Love everyone, the 'Jesus Christ Balloon of Life' will lift us 'up, up and away' from the tribulations of the world, and all will be well with us, for it is written, "These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me you might have Peace. In the world you shall have tribula-

tion: but be of good cheer; I have overcome (risen above) the world." (John 16:33)

The Five Faces of Christ

Another way to more deeply understand the true and unitive nature of Jesus Christ is by recognizing that there are five different facets, or faces inherent within this sacred living Principle.

- 1) Jesus Christ as a Prophecy Jesus Christ began as an intuition in the hearts of the Old Testament prophets. Many of their prophetic revelations were devoted to describing the nature of the 'Living Lord' who would one day come and walk among us. In fact, the prophets, seers and mystics of many ancient cultures had made similar predictions of the coming of a God-Man who would save us all. These universal prophecies where ultimately fulfilled by the coming of Jesus Christ. This is why the Jews were called the 'Chosen People.' Not because God loved them more than others, but simply because they were chosen as the culture through which the Universal Prophecy would be fulfilled.
- 2) Jesus Christ as a Person The New Testament of the Bible records the fulfillment of the universal prophecies of a God-Man as the birth of a person named Jesus of Nazareth, who became known as Jesus (man) Christ (God). Because Jesus was a real historical person, all that he did became a possibility for other human beings to do as well. In fact, he even said that "greater works than these shall you do." (John 14:12) Therefore, Jesus Christ was not the great exception to humanity, but the 'Great Example' for every human being.
- 3) Jesus Christ as a Principle It is a common practice in the realm of science to name newly discovered principles after the historical person who first revealed them.

For example, we have Archimedes Principle, as referenced above. Additionally, we have Boyle's Law, Planck's Constant and Einstein's Theory of Relativity. What is not generally understood is that this same convention exists within the realm of spiritual science, or metaphysics. Consequently, the name of every great World Teacher represents both an historical person and, more importantly, the Principle of Truth that they revealed to humanity by their presence in the world. In this light, we must understand that Jesus, as an historical person, came to demonstrate a Cosmic Principle that is the ultimate destiny of every human being. It is the principle of the personification of the presence of God. In other words, Jesus was the person who became the Presence of God, as Christ. And Christ is the Presence of God that became the person named Jesus. This Principle is the *'Great Coincidence'* of Man and God. For it is written in the beginning of Holy Bible, that God walked with Adam in the Garden of Eden. Yet, in the New Testament, it is revealed that God the Father walked as Jesus Christ, who created the Garden, or Heaven on Earth, wherever He was.

4) Jesus Christ as a Presence - Every principle in life is experienced as a *presence*. For example, gravity is a natural principle that can be mathematically described. Yet, every human being experiences gravity as an invisible presence that is always acting upon them, whether they understand the principle of it, or not. Therefore, those who understand the principle of gravity can interact with its presence in a way that is beneficial. For example, an airplane can fly only because it was designed in accordance with the principle of gravity, and subsequently operates in harmony with the actual presence of this natural force. In the same way, Jesus Christ is a Cosmic Principle that exists as a

Universal Presence in our lives. To the degree that we understand this great Principle we can interact with It's Presence in a way that is beneficial to both ourselves and others.

5) Jesus Christ as a Power - The essence of power is the ability to bring about change. Whenever anything is exposed to the presence of an active principle, it will be changed in some way. The degree to which it is changed is a measure of the power possessed by that principle. For example, gravity as a principle, is a universal presence that has the power to change the entire world, and everything upon it. In the same sense. lesus Christ, as the universal Principle of Love, has the power to change all things for good. In other words, to change them for the better and to change them forever. The primary difference between a natural principle like gravity, and a living Principle like Jesus Christ, is that gravity will enter into our lives at every opportunity, whereas Jesus Christ will only enter by our invitation. Consequently, in order to tap into the Power of the Principle of lesus Christ, we must first invoke Its Presence into our lives.

It's important to understand that the Presence of Jesus Christ doesn't come and go as it pleases, nor is it in one place more than another. It is always omnipresent. Furthermore, it does not favor one person over

another, it only seems that way because some people are more receptive to Its blessing power. This is because of the faith they have developed in the Power of the Presence that is inherent in the Principle of Jesus Christ. This faith is developed by studying the Principle, as it is revealed in the Word of God; And then bringing It into expression through real spiritual practice. We must also be aware that the real essence of the Presence of Jesus Christ is Love. Consequently, when we live our lives according to the Principle of Jesus Christ, we literally bring the Power of Love into all that we do.

In Conclusion

As defined above, unitive means 'to draw into unity or oneness.' Consequently, the nature of Unitive Christianity is such that it draws us into a state of communion with the Divine, as well as those who live around us. Furthermore, this 'awareness of oneness' that we call Love is the true and inherent nature of our own being, when we live our lives like Jesus Christ, according to:

The Great Commandment of Life

"Thou shalt Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." (Luke 10:27)

> Rev. Lloyd Strom March 2020