

God's Presence In Our Lives

Intro: Christ relates in John 14:10-11 ¹⁰ "Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works. ¹¹ Believe me that I *am* in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake." and John 17:21 ²¹ "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." that the Father and Christ are one and thus the Father lives in Christ. We might ask how the Father lives in Christ how they are one.

I. CHRIST BECOMES A SERVANT TO THE WILL OF THE FATHER.

A. Phi. 2:5-11 ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

1. "form of God"

- a. *Form* is the Greek μορφή (*morphe*) which means the inner nature of outwardly expressed.
- b. Christ had the nature of God.

2. "form of a servant"

- a. *Form* is again the Greek μορφή (*morphe*)
- b. *Servant* is the Greek δοῦλος (*doulos*) which means slave.
- c. He joined with the nature of God the nature of a slave. A slave loses his identity, his personality for his master.

3. "fashion as a man"

- a. *Fashion* is the Greek σχῆμα (*schema*) means the outward appearance or expression but not the inner nature.
- b. Christ outward expression was that of a man, but his inner nature was that of God and a slave.

B. Christ expressed this idea.

1. John 4:34 ³⁴ "Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work."
2. John 5:19, 30 ¹⁹ "Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.... ³⁰ I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."
3. John 8:28 ²⁸ "Then said Jesus unto them, When ye have lifted up the Son of man, then shall ye know that I am *he*, and *that* I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things."
4. John 12:48-50 ⁴⁸ "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. ⁴⁹ For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. ⁵⁰ And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak."

II. WHEN WE AS CHRIST BECOME A SLAVE TO THE WILL OF THE FATHER THEN WE BECOME ONE WITH HIM AND HE LIVES IN US.

A. The New Testament writers refer to themselves as slaves.

1. Paul—Rom. 1:1 “¹ Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God;”
2. James—Jam. 1:1 “¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.”
3. Peter—2 Pet. 1:1 “¹ Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:”
4. Jude—Jude 1:1 “¹ Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, *and* called:”
5. John—Rev. 1:1 “¹ The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified *it* by his angel unto his servant John:”

B. We must be subject to God's will and thus Christ will.

1. We are to hear Christ; Mat. 17:1-5 “¹ And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, ² And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. ³ And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. ⁴ Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. ⁵ While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.”
2. Mat. 28:18 “¹⁸ And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”
3. Gal. 2:20 “²⁰ I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”
4. Phi. 2:5 “⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:”
5. Rom. 12:1-2 “¹ I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. ² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”
6. 1 John 2:6 “⁶ He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”
7. Christ is Lord κύριος (*kurios*) means master, ruler.
 - a. Acts 2:36 “³⁶ Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.”
 - b. Phi. 2:11 “¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

III. THE PROMISE WE HAVE WHEN WE LET CHRIST RULE IN US.

A. We have comfort and consolation.

1. 1 Pet. 5:7 “⁷ Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” cf. vs. 5-6 “⁵ Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, *all of you* be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. ⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:”
2. Mat. 6:25, 34 “²⁵ Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?... ³⁴ Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.”

B. We have Christ as a mediator;

1. 1 Tim. 2:5 ⁵“For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;”
2. Heb. 8:6; 12:24 ⁶“But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.... ^{12:24}And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than *that of* Abel.”
3. As Advocate
 - a. 1 John 2:1 ¹“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;”
 - b. One who pleads our case.

C. We have all spiritual blessings; Eph. 1:3 ³“Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:”

1. No condemnation; Rom. 8:1 ¹“*There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”
2. Redemption - forgiveness of sins
 - a. Eph. 1:7 ⁷“In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;”
 - b. Col. 1:14 ¹⁴“In whom we have redemption through his blood, *even* the forgiveness of sins;”
3. Salvation; 2 Tim. 2:10 ¹⁰“Therefore I endure all things for the elect’s sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.”
4. New creature; 2 Cor. 5:17 ¹⁷“Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”
5. Child of God; Gal. 3:26 ²⁶“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.”

D. We have God as a Father.

1. To those outside of Christ the devil is their Father; John 8:44 ⁴⁴“Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”
2. But we have a loving heaven Father.
 - a. Mat. 7:7 ⁷“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you;”
 - b. The prodigal son; Luke 15
3. Rom. 8:28 ²⁸“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.”

Conclusion: When we obey God then we, as David, can say, Psa. 139:7-10 ⁷“Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? ⁸If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*. ⁹If I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; ¹⁰Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.” (Temptation escape; 1 Cor. 10:13 ¹³“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God *is* faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear *it*.”)