

PART 14 - ONENESS IS ONLY DISCOVERED WHEN WE ARE IN HIM

In the last resource, we looked at incorporating Jesus into our lives, or having Christ as our life. We shared about the difference between these two realities and that followers of the temple have only incorporated Jesus into their lives, as opposed to followers of the wilderness, where Jesus has become their very life.

John 1:4 In Him was life and the life was the Light of men.

Acts 17:28 For in Him we live and move and exist...

These are two distinctively different positions and because they are separate, there is not spiritual oneness or fellowship occurring between these followers, which means these followers live for different things.

1 John 1:6-7 "If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin."

We can see from verse 3 of 1 John 1 which says, "***what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ,***" that fellowship or oneness of spirit is not an automatic reality.

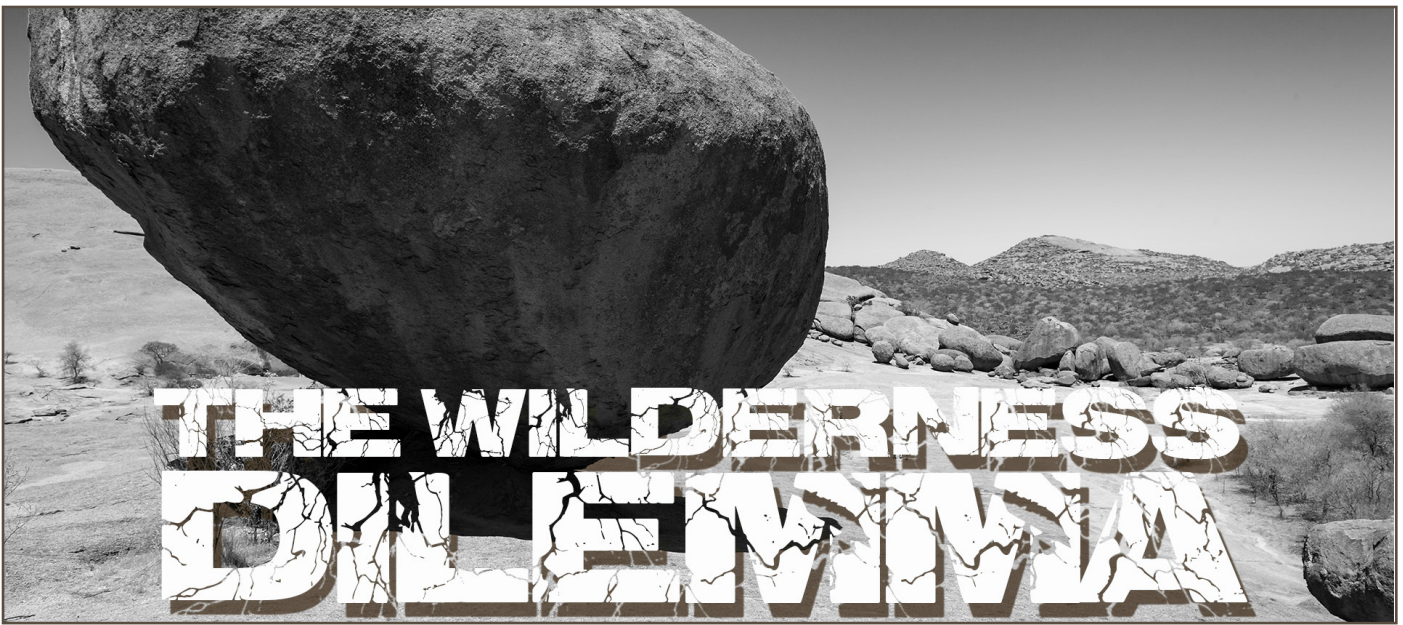
It must be entered into through the spiritual hearing and seeing of the Word of God which comes directly from the Holy Spirit Himself or through mankind, as per John from above.

This doesn't mean God doesn't love both groups of followers, but the difference between the two groups causes them to be living for different things. Instead of being one in spirit, love, mind and purpose, as Paul taught, there is a different reality outplaying itself, even though they can look very similar to the natural eye.

Just because followers attend the same building week in week out for services, pray together, sing together and do things together, doesn't mean these followers are in oneness with one another, being perfected in unity.

Look at these words of Paul when it comes to being spiritually one and being perfected in oneness - fellowship.

Philippians 2:2 "make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united



in spirit, intent on one purpose.”

Jesus made a profound statement in John 17:23 where He said this:

“I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.”

To be perfected in unity is the goal. To become one with the Father and Son, knowing this creates unity with one another, and the outcome of this is a world knowing that Jesus was sent for them. This is purely supernatural, eternal and will only be realised when God’s people truly relinquish their lives unto Him, losing their lives for His sake, allowing God to truly be Lord in their lives.

The counterfeit version of this dimension of unity is in the drawing of followers together to achieve a functional common goal. This is commonly found in temple worshippers. This goal can even be spiritual, i.e. having a corporate prayer gathering and praying for the nation etc, but this isn't unity nor will it form unity of spirit. Only the Word of God does that.

As per the title, oneness is only discovered in Him, hence the prayer of Jesus again in John 17:11.

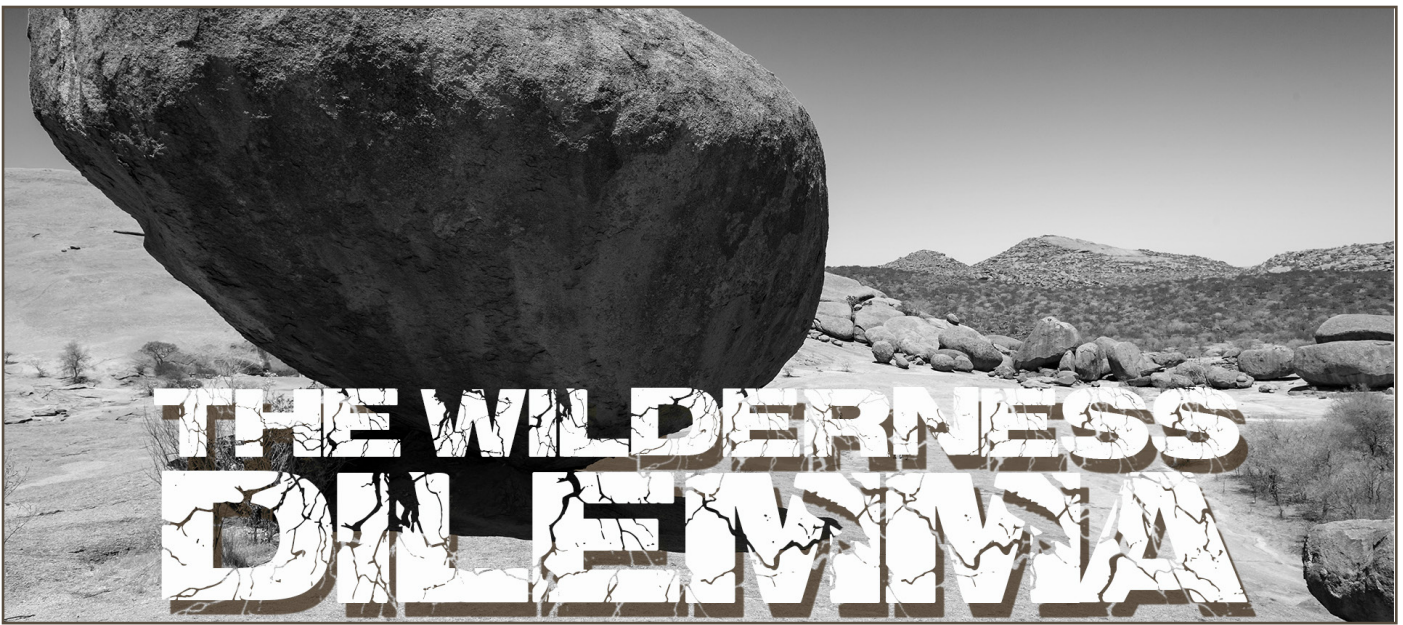
John 17:11 “I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, **that they may be one even as We are.**”

John 17:26 “and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”

The problem is that temple followers are predominantly unaware that this posture of oneness even exists, and they assume and presume they are already in it, because of their own understanding, their feelings and by what they do. They are easily offended when this Word is spoken, as it shines the light on their true heart state.

As mentioned the deception is in the fact that they can look like they are the same but in the heart, the place of life and understanding, they are completely opposite. The temple follower is still ultimately living for self, and the operating systems of self, while looking like they are living for God, and genuinely believing they are. The wilderness follower on the other hand has died with Christ and their life is hidden in God, they are only interested in the Father’s will, period.

One is godliness which becomes profitable for this life and the life to come, while the other holds to a form of godliness, which profits us nothing.



Wilderness followers can't go back to being a temple follower and living from the temple ways. They have to pursue the One who is a type of wilderness, because they have become one with Him. This causes them to make decisions and prioritise life in a way that becomes offensive to the temple follower.

2 Timothy 2:3-4 "Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier."

Wilderness followers are not trying to offend anyone but be faithful to the One they are one with. In fact, they desire all of the temple followers to surrender and lose the temple heart and mind set and come and be one with them and the Christ.

QUESTIONS

1. What has stood out the most for you in this resource?
2. Why is oneness only discovered in Him?
3. Why is conformity through the flesh so dangerous in the body of Christ?
4. Which posture (wilderness or temple follower) do you relate to the most and why?