March 17, 2018

GOD the FATHER

The title of today’s sermon is God the Father. We hear a lot of sermons about Jesus. Today we are going to hear a sermon about the eternal Father. I have a handout that includes all the scriptures in the presentation, so rather than taking notes, read the scriptures on the screen. BTW 95% of this sermon is scripture.

First, let us pray …

“The language of the Bible should be explained according to its OBVIOUS MEANING, unless a symbol or figure is employed. Christ has given the promise: **"If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine."** John 7:17. If men would but TAKE THE BIBLE AS IT READS, if there were no false teachers to mislead and confuse their minds, a work would be accomplished that would make angels glad and that would bring into the fold of Christ thousands upon thousands who are now wandering in error….” {DD 38.4} (Darkness Before Dawn)

About the Oneness of the Father

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is ONE LORD:

Malachi 2:10 Have we not all ONE father? hath not ONE God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

Mark 12:28-34 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all? And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is ONE Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. And the scribe said unto him, Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is ONE God; and there is none other but he: And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices. And when Jesus saw that he answered discreetly, he said unto him, Thou art not far from the kingdom of God. And no man after that durst ask him any question.

Romans 3:30 Seeing it is ONE God, which shall justify the circumcision by faith, and uncircumcision through faith.

1 Corinthians 8:4-6 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but ONE. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) But to us there is but ONE God, the Father, (Source ) of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, (Creator) by whom are all things, and we by him.

Ephesians 4:4-6 There is one body, and ONE SPIRIT, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ONE GOD and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Note carefully, the verses say there is one Spirit, not one God the Spirit, but it does say there is one God identified as Father of all. No trinity in these verses.

1 Timothy 2:5 For there is ONE GOD, and ONE MEDIATOR between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is ONE GOD; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

The Spirit and the Son of the Father

Matthew 3:16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the SPIRIT OF GOD descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: Note – It does not say God the Spirit, rather the Spirit of God. Not a trinity verse.

John 1:34 And I saw, and bare record that this is the SON OF GOD. Note – It does not say God the Son, rather the Son of God. Not a trinity verse. Jesus is God by virtue of His birth in eternity as He came from the Father’s substance.

The Father God Cannot Lie

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which GOD, that CANNOT LIE, promised before the world began;

The Son of the Father

Matthew 17:5 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. Note – It does not say this is my metaphorical role playing son. It says this is My beloved Son. He cannot lie.

2 Peter 1:16-18 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. Peter is talking about what he saw and heard at the mount of transfiguration. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only BEGOTTEN SON, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Note – This verse does not say He gave His Son to be begotten. He gave an already begotten Son. How do we know? Verse 17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. Note – In order for God to send a Son, He had to have a Son to send.

Acts 13:33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my SON, this day have I begotten thee.

Psalm 2:7 I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my SON; this day have I begotten thee.

2 Corinthians 1:3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; (Note - It is God the Father who is the source of all comfort.) Especially Note – Sister White in the introductory statement said we are to TAKE THE BIBLE AS IT READS unless a symbol or figure is employed the Bible should be explained according to its OBVIOUS MEANING. Since God sent His Son in verse 17 above, then His Son had to be begotten back in eternity. The church says NO! They say we must believe that there are three co-eternal Gods playing roles and according to Angel Rodriguez at the BRI (Bible Research Institute) the Father-Son relationship is not a true Father-Son relationship, only a metaphor.

Sister White never wrote such foolishness, but she definitely did write the following: God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God. To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been made equal with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son. {CCh 76.5} {8T 268.3} Today the church says that Jesus was co-eternal and co-equal, meaning He always was equal. Who is lyimg? The church or the testimony of Jesus?

Will You Speak the Truth of the Father?

Job 13:7 Will ye speak wickedly for God? and talk deceitfully for him? God had His inspired servant Moses write the question in verse 7. Any false statement about our eternal Father God is speaking wickedly and talking deception. But Verse 8 asks, **Will ye accept his person? will ye contend for God?** That is the purpose of this sermon today. We are contending for the true person of God. The Bible says He is the One true God. The church says He is only one of three co-eternal Gods.

The Son of the Father

Matthew 16:16, 17 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the SON OF THE LIVING GOD. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

John 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the TRUE WORSHIPPERS shall worship the FATHER in SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH: for the *Father seeketh such to worship him*.

Note – After Jesus ascended and the eleven disciples were gathered and the two who ran back from Emmaus after Jesus was walking with them, Jesus appeared in the midst of them and they were frightened, thinking they saw a spirit. Jesus said in Luke 24:39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

God the Father’s Form or Shape

John 5:37 And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me. Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his shape. We know that the Father has a shape and therefore a physical presence, but no mortal man has seen the Father, nor could He survive if He did. We do know that we were made in His image.

Sister White wrote this in EW 54.2 I saw a throne, and on it sat the Father and the Son. I gazed on Jesus' countenance and admired His lovely person. The Father's person I could not behold, for a cloud of glorious light covered Him. *I asked Jesus if His Father had a form like Himself. He said He had*, but I could not behold it, for said He, "If you should once behold the glory of His person, you would cease to exist." {EW 54.2} So Sister White was told that the Father’s form was like Christs. We were made in their image. Genesis 1:26, 27.

Philippians 2:6 Who, being in the FORM OF GOD, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

God’s Creation

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

Note – God the Father is the source of all created things and Jesus was appointed to be the Creator.

Colossians 1:15-17 Who (Christ) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him (Jesus), and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Hebrews 1:1, 2 God, (Father) who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he (Christ) made the worlds;

God’s Immortality

John 5:26 For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Note – God the eternal Father who always was, has immortal life which is original, unborrowed and underived. That is the same life He put in His begotten Son.

An older Ellen G. White wrote the Book “Desire of Ages” in 1898 IN CHRIST IS LIFE, ORIGINAL, UNBORROWED, UNDERIVED. "He that hath the Son hath life." 1 John 5:12. The divinity of Christ is the believer's assurance of eternal life. "He that believeth in Me," said Jesus, "though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die. {DA 530.3}

Note – It will be at the second coming that the Father’s life, original, unborrowed and underived, the eternal life referred to as immortality, will be put in the resurrected and translated ones.

God’s Omnipotence (All Powerful)

Psalm 62:11 God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that POWER belongeth unto God.

Note – God’s Omnipotent power is spoken of here and in the next verse.

Jeremiah 32:17 Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy GREAT POWER and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

Revelation 19:4-6 And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts fell down and worshipped God that sat on the throne, saying, Amen; Alleluia. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God OMNIPOTENT reigneth.

God’s Omniniscience (All Knowing)

2 Corinthians 16:9 For the EYES (omniscience) of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth (omnipresence), to show himself strong (power – omnipotence) in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

Matthew 10:29, 30 Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. (that’s omniscience)

Hebrews 4:13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes (omniscience and omnipresence) of him with whom we have to do.

God Our Dwelling Place

Psalm 90:1, 2  A Prayer of Moses the man of God. LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting (before the realm of time began) to everlasting (after the realm of time ceases), thou art God.

God is Infinite in Wisdom

Romans 11:33-36 O the depth of the riches both of the WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?

1 Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the MIND OF THE LORD, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Note – The gospel is about transformation of character. By beholding the Father we can become more like the Son.

God is Unchangeable

Psalm 89:34 My covenant will I not break, nor ALTER the thing that is gone out of my lips.

Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I CHANGE NOT;

James 1:17 E very good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is NO VARIABLENESS, neither shadow of turning.

Sealing God’s Servants

Revelation 7:3 Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have SEALED the servants of our God IN THEIR FOREHEADS. And I heard the number of them which were sealed: and there were sealed an HUNDRED AND FORTY AND FOUR THOUSAND of all the tribes of the children of Israel.

Revelation 14:1 And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his FATHER'S NAME written in their foreheads.

Note - God’s servants are sealed with the Father’s name in their foreheads. Not a trinity!

We Will See the Father’s Face

according to: Revelation 22:4 And they shall see his face; and HIS NAME shall be in their foreheads.

Let us pray …