

He Does it for Us?

The pastor believes Christian characters are obtained, because (let me remember) Paul said Gal 4:19 . . . "until Christ be formed in you," no this isn't what he said nor was it Col. 3:16 Let *the word of Christ dwell*' nor was 1Thess. 4:3 For this is *the will of God, even your sanctification.*" Oh, it was Christ dwells in us but he didn't say how? There are things this pastor is teaching that is pantheism—that destroy and denies the plainest statements of scripture.

It is Through The Living Word!

“Cumbered with humanity, *Christ could not be in every place personally*; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, *and send* the Holy Spirit to be His *successor* on earth. *The Holy Spirit is Himself divested* of the personality of humanity and independent thereof. He would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, *He shall* (although unseen by you), [THIS PHRASE WAS ADDED BY ELLEN WHITE.] teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" [John 14:26]. "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will come not unto you; but if I depart, I will *send Him* unto you" [John 16:7].” {14MR 23.3} DA 669.2.

He was in all things like unto us. *Though He was God*, He did not appear as God. *He veiled the manifestations of Deity*, which had commanded the homage and called forth the admiration of the universe. *He divested Himself of the form of God*, and in its stead took the form of man. He laid aside His glory, and for our sakes became poor, that we through His poverty might be rich. 17MR 339.1

Heb. 2:17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him *to be made like unto his brethren*, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Note: See Isa. 9:6 and Luke 2:11. 1John 4:3

Here is seen the meaning Of Christ's Words to His Apostles.

Matt. 16: If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and *take up his cross, and follow me.* . . . 19:16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said

unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, **keep the commandments**. 18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 20 The young man saith unto him, All these things have I kept from my youth up: what lack I yet? 21 Jesus said unto him, ***If thou wilt be perfect***, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and **come and follow me**.

John 13:36 Simon Peter said unto him, Lord, whither goest thou? Jesus answered him, ***Whither I go, thou canst not follow me now; but thou shalt follow me afterwards***. . . . 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. ***I go to prepare a place for you***. 3 ***And if I go*** and prepare a place for you, ***I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also***. . . . 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; ***It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away***, the Comforter will not come unto you; but **if I depart, I will send him unto you**. 8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: . . . 10 Of righteousness, ***because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more***; . . . 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. . . . 16 A little while, and ***ye shall not see me***: and again, a little while, and ***ye shall see me***, because I go to the Father.

Acts 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, ***he was taken up***; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

Rev. 14:4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which ***follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth***. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. 5 And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Note: If Christ-God dwells in us then what need is there for an investigative Judgement or for The New Jerusalem or for Rev. 21:3 . . . “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and ***he will dwell with them***,” not in them? “and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them,” not in them? “and be their God.” *2Chron. 6:18*. He’s dwelling in us now but then He will not. Or to what purpose then are keeping the Ten Commandments if He does it for us. Or Isaiah 66:23 And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one sabbath to

another, **shall all flesh come** to worship before me, saith the LORD. The pastor has followed the mistake of Jones and Wagoner God does it all which lead them to pantheism. Here is also seen modern spiritualism in spiritualistic interpretation of scripture to deceive if possible the elect.

How Does it Work.

1Cor. 5:7 ***Purge out therefore the old leaven***, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. 2Tim. 2:21 ***If a man therefore purge himself*** from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, ***sanctified***, and meet for the master's use, and ***prepared unto every good work***. 1John 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him ***purifieth himself, even as he is pure***. And even Our Lord Jesus taught in Matt. 23:26 to “cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also.”

Of Jesus it is written. Heb. 5:8 Though he were a Son, ***yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;***

2Cor. 11:21 Howbeit whereinsoever any is bold, (I speak foolishly,) I am bold also. 22 Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. 23 Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) ***I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.*** 24 ***Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.*** 25 ***Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep;*** 26 ***In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;*** 27 ***In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.*** 28 ***Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.*** 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? who is offended, and I burn not?

Heb. 12:4 Ye have not yet ***resisted unto blood, striving against sin.***

Note: In the following Paul describes the effort to form a Christ like Character fitted for Heaven.

1Cor. 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? ***So run***, that ye may obtain. 25 And ***every man that striveth for the mastery*** over self “temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible

crown; but we” (DO IT to obtain) "an incorruptible. 26 *I therefore so run*, not as uncertainly; *so fight I*, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But *I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.*

Note: Paul uses many ways to state character perfection, old-new man, carnal-spiritual man, Child Man etc.

1John 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and *it doth not yet appear what we shall be:* but we know that, when he shall appear, *we shall be like him;* for we shall see him as he is.

The prophets and apostles did not perfect Christian character by a *miracle*. They used the *means* which God had placed within their reach; and all who will put forth *the same effort* will secure the same results.--The Sanctified Life, pp. 82-84. {RC 97.7}

Matt. 5:11 Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12 *Rejoice, and be exceeding glad:* for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Phil 1:14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, *waxing confident* by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

We are not to settle down, expecting that a change of character will come to us by some miraculous work, when Jesus shall appear in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. No, we are judgment-bound, and *probation is granted to us here in this life, in order that we may form characters for the future, immortal life.* SD9.2; YI August 24, 1893, par. 2

The worshiper of God will find that he cannot cherish one fiber of the root of selfishness. He cannot do his duty to his God and practice oppression toward his fellow men. The second principle of the law is like unto the first, “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” “This do and thou shalt live.” These are the words of Jesus Christ from which there can be no departure on the part of any man, woman, or youth who would be a true Christian. *It is obedience to the principles of the commandments of God, that molds the character after the divine similitude....* SD 52.3

“Jesus proceeded to show His hearers” in the sermon on the mount “what it means to keep the commandments of God—*that it is a reproduction in*

themselves of the character of Christ. For in Him, God was daily made manifest before them.” MB 55.1

The world's Redeemer, the householder, intrusts his goods *to his own servants*, but not for *them* to invest and use extravagantly for *themselves*. Reason, ability, knowledge, affection, property, have been received from Jesus, and are to be held as a precious trust for his service, to bring honor and glory to his name. *In life and character the Christian is bound up with Christ* in the plans of mercy for the great work of blessing humanity. His character is to be a reproduction of the character of Christ; the unselfish, self-sacrificing life of Jesus will be copied by every soul who loves the Redeemer. *He who lives to please himself is not a Christian. He has not been created anew in Christ Jesus.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 6

The Christian's life will testify that *he is governed by other laws* than those which the world obeys,—*laws of a higher order than those that control the lovers of the world.* The will of God, our Creator, *is to be made manifest in us*, not only in the name we bear, but *in our life of self-denial.* We are to give evidence that we are influenced and controlled by unselfish principles. *All our purposes and pursuits should stand in distinct contrast to the selfishness of the world.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 7

Oneness with Christ *enables men to wield an influence far above that of the renowned of this world.* While copying the example of Christ, they have, with his grace, power to benefit the church and the community. *Their influence is felt just in proportion* to the distinctness of the line of demarkation *which separates them in spirit and principle from the world.* MMis June 1, 1891, par. 6-8

The world's Redeemer, the Householder, entrusts His goods to His own servants, but not for *them* to invest and use extravagantly for *themselves*. Money, possessions, intellect, are but lent us to be held *as a precious trust for the service of Christ.* Reason, ability, knowledge, affection, property have been received from Jesus, <and are> to be used with wisdom to bring honor and glory to His name. In life and character the Christian is bound up with Christ in the plans of mercy for the great work of blessing humanity. His character is to be a reproduction of the character of Christ. The unselfish, self-sacrificing life of Jesus is to be copied by every soul who loves the Redeemer. 7LtMs, Ms 26, 1891, par. 7

Christ has given us no assurance that to attain perfection of character is an easy matter. A noble, all-round character is not inherited. It does not come to us by accident. *A noble character is earned by individual effort* through the merits and grace and Christ. God gives the talents, the powers of the mind; *we form the character.* It is formed by hard, stern battles with self. Conflict after conflict must be waged against hereditary tendencies. We shall have to criticize ourselves

closely, and allow not one unfavorable trait to remain uncorrected. . . . {OFC 308.6}

Note: After all He has done for us we form the character why? He will not force us to give up any trait we are unwilling to. Why Does He not form the Character for us?

God never forces the will or the conscience; but Satan's constant resort—to gain control of those whom he cannot otherwise seduce—is compulsion by cruelty. Through fear or force he endeavors to rule the conscience and to secure homage to himself. To accomplish this, he works through *both religious and secular authorities*, moving them to the enforcement of human laws in defiance of the law of God. GC 591.2; GC 586.2

Note: Pastors and Elders and secular authorities will try to seduce you by false doctrine, psychological and social manipulation to disparage, degrade, and accuse you of pride or un-christ likeness for trusting in your confident knowledge of scripture. Or they will falsely accuse you to create a criminal out of you to shake you from God to the control of men.

Let no one say, "I cannot remedy my defects of character"; for if this is your decision, *then you cannot have eternal life*. The impossibility is all in your will. If you *will not*, that constitutes the *cannot*.

The real difficulty is the corruption of an unsanctified heart, and an unwillingness to submit to the will of God. When there is a *determined purpose* born in your heart to *overcome*, you will have a *disposition to overcome*, and will *cultivate* those traits of character that are desirable, and will *engage* in the conflict with *steady persevering effort*. You will *exercise* a *ceaseless* watchfulness over your defects of character, and will *cultivate* right practices in little things. The difficulty of overcoming will be *lessened in proportion* as the heart is sanctified by the grace of Christ. {SD 115.1,2} {YI Sept. 7, 1893.}

We have the privilege of being trained *under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit*. All the attributes that are excellent are to strengthen our moral powers, that they may have no mist or tarnish upon them. *We are weaving our threads in the web of humanity;* not a thread of self-glory must be woven into the fabric. All heaven is imparting its help that we may surmount every obstacle. . . . *We are to build characters of a goodly fabric, spiritual, heavenly, perfect. God bids us work for time and for eternity that we may grow after the divine likeness.* {HP 165.5}

Note: The pastor thinks that obeying the word of God and knowing God's will and

being confident that we have done it, is pride and self-glory a filthy rags. He could not be more dangerously mistaken. “47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, **and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.**” Luke 12.

Do not think that God will work a miracle to save those weak souls who cherish evil, who practice sin; *or that some supernatural element will be brought* into their lives, **lifting them out of self into a higher sphere,** where it will be comparatively easy work, *without any special effort, any special fighting, without any crucifixion of self;* because all who dally on Satan's ground for this to be done will perish with the evildoers. They will be suddenly destroyed, and that without remedy. {TM 453.2}

What are you doing, brethren, in the great work of preparation? Those who are uniting with the world are receiving the worldly mold and preparing for the mark of the beast. *Those who are distrustful of self, who are humbling themselves before God and purifying their souls **by obeying the truth these are receiving the heavenly mold and preparing** for the seal of God in their foreheads. When the decree goes forth and the stamp is impressed, their character will remain pure and spotless for eternity.* {5T 216.1}

And of those who don't?

As the storm approaches, a large class who have **professed faith in** the third angel's message, but **have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position and join the ranks of the opposition.** By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, **they have come to view matters in nearly the same light;** and when the test is brought, they are prepared to **choose the easy, popular side.** Men of talent and pleasing address, who once rejoiced in the truth, employ their powers to deceive and mislead souls. *They become the most bitter enemies of their former brethren. When Sabbathkeepers are brought before the courts to answer for their faith, these apostates are the most efficient agents of Satan to misrepresent and accuse them, and by false reports and insinuations to stir up the rulers against them.* {GC 608.2}

Conclusion.

All we have to do is believe the pastor said, Question: Does Christ dwell in every one that believeth?

James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: *the devils also believe*, and tremble. Luke 4:34 . . . *I know thee who thou art; the Holy One of God.*

So I would ask the pastor what Jesus was like, what He suffered, what He learned, whom He served, what He endured, Who He followed?

1Peter 2:21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, *leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:*

James 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, *for an example* of suffering affliction, and of patience. 11 *Behold, we count them happy which endure.* Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

Rev. 3:21 *To him that overcometh* will I grant to sit with me in my throne, *even as I also overcame*, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Happy Sabbath

Mark 9:38 And John answered him, saying, Master, *we saw one* casting out devils in thy name, and he *followeth not us:* and *we forbad him, because he followeth not us.*

Convincing others of truth is just as much a miracle as healing.