

HOW DO YOU WANT IT?

BY: BRAD CULLEN – DECEMBER 22, 2006

Have you ever wondered how simple things become SO complicated? Case in point: Jesus' disciple Philip says to Jesus,

"Just show us the Father and that will be enough."

Yeah, pretty simple, right? Here's Jesus' response:

"What are you saying that for, Phil? You've been with me all this time and you still don't, know me? He who has seen me has seen the Father. Don't you believe that the Father is in me and that I am in the Father? What I say to you comes from the Father in me. And if that's too hard for you, believe it because of the miracles you've seen me do,' and don't forget, if any individual believes enough he will perform even more and greater miracles than you've seen me do because I am going to the Father. "

Now, isn't that still fairly simple? Let's see if we can unravel a seeming mystery. Jesus has just dumped a verbal truckload of sand - all we have to do is sift through it and get the grains that are meaningful to us. First, shall we take a hard look at two facts revealed here? One, Jesus did not do any miracles! His Father in him did them. The first part of the mystery is cleared away. Second, any individual that believes enough will perform the same miracles Jesus performed.

Are you tracking with me so far? Let's make it a bit clearer, any individual - that's you and I - who cannot turn water into wine, walk on water, produce calm in the midst of a storm, cast out demons, heal diverse diseases, give sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf. etc., ad infinitum, plainly and simply just don't believe enough yet.

You may be reeling from such a bold statement and we're getting to the part of just how and why it gets complicated. Before we go to the myriad ways our own defense mechanisms give birth to all the religious excuses for not being and doing what Jesus said we'd be and do if only we believe enough, let's return to simple:

If the miracles that Jesus did weren't being done by Jesus, but were done by the Father within him, we have the first clue to the missing piece of the puzzle. What any individual needs to believe enough is what Jesus understood, the Father in him was capable enough to do the seeming impossible through him in some circumstances - *some* because there is yet another ingredient, but that only makes it slightly more complicated; more about that in a moment or two.

Going past *slightly* more complicated and jumping right into real complicated, I know what some of you reading this are thinking. You are thinking I am missing the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. No I'm not; I am also not missing the fact that if you (still addressing those of you who think I am missing something) would pay attention to the relatively simple (not easy) instructions (albeit complicated by mistranslation in many English versions of the Bible) of how to go about being joint heirs with Jesus, yes, siblings with all rights and authority of the SON, you would be on your way to fulfill the purpose of why the Creator of the universe became a human being. Merry Christmas? Bah, humbug!

I know how many of you (still addressing the same crowd who believes I am missing something) are clinging desperately right now to John 1:16 "only begotten Son," right?" Without getting into the technicality of translation and transliteration of Hebrew to Greek and Hebrew and Greek to English, can we set aside your John 3:16 lukewarm, Milquetoast Christian mentality and attempt to move on into greater understanding of just who and just what your true destiny in Christ is supposed to be?

Back to the general audience, let's move on to the very next words of Jesus:

"And whatever you ask in my name; that I will do so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. if you ask me anything in my name I will do it?"

Thousands upon thousands of Christians quote these words just before they pray for something ending wondrously and sonorously, "in the name of Jesus Christ amen." Some honestly admit that their prayer was ineffectual and never question why. Others even more honestly admit the same lack of results and do ask why. How do you want it, sugar coated, or the real stuff?

It is the same lack revealed in the first part of the passage. Relationship with the Father, the Father IN YOU performs the miracles and gets results in intercessory prayer. Simply said, I didn't do it, Dad did it. Why on earth would

anyone want to take credit for a miracle when Dad did it and we should be seeing miracles being performed though us continually.

I have people write me and call me all the time saying that my emphasis on being able to perform miracles is misleading people and even putting them in danger of losing their salvation. I'm not to digress into some theological debate on the merits or demerits of the question whether the once saved, always saved camp is correct or the other way around. Jesus who and what we are to be, JESUS. "It is no longer I but Christ," get it?

Anastasis dunamis = resurrection power, "1 died with Christ and was resurrected with him," get it?

I don't know how many times I have written that I am not engaging in any self• aggrandizement when I tell various true stories of miracles that have happened through me. They have nothing to do with me, Dad did them. The point is, Jesus gave rather simple instructions for how to get to the point of having the same Dad-consciousness as he had. It requires believing enough that you are a joint heir with the Son of God. your very own elder brother.

Simplicity: The Creative Spirit part of Elohiym, the multitudinous unions of Spirits that make up the "Godhead," that part of Elohiym that spoke everything into existence became the human being we refer to as Jesus Christ. That man said we could be and do what he was and did as a man. "Praying" in his name means demanding and commanding in the same character and authority with which he spoke. The understanding of Dad residing within in him - the authority is that of the Creator of the universe and whom, if you have received, lives in you - his character is that of wanting to do only what Dad wanted him to do.

How do you want it? Remember back a couple of pages:

If the miracles that Jesus did, weren't being done by Jesus, but were done by the Father within him, we have the first clue to the missing piece of the puzzle. What any individual needs to believe enough is what Jesus understood, the Father in him was capable enough to do the seeming impossible in all circumstances - some because there is yet another ingredient, but that only makes it slightly more complicated; more about that in a moment or two.

The moment has arrived! The missing ingredient is the same as it was for Jesus who "marveled at their unbelief." This is not an excuse for those times when Dad does not operate through us in the miraculous. I will tell you exactly where this phenomenal lack of belief takes place. In the midst of people who think they know who Jesus is, moreover, in our day, these are the same people who even give lip service to his deity but totally lack in his love and power.

. . . and with this I close: They forget that Jesus also said, "what is the point of calling me 'Lord' if you don't pay any attention to what I say - and do it."

For those of US who prefer a sugar coated version we can go back and sit on a pew and watch children perform a nativity scene. "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night."

Eggnog anyone?

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