

DIVINE

The Lord said to a certain man,

The greatest things in heaven, are found in the lowest places on earth.

A brother saw fall leaves scattered across the ground

Different colors

Not gathered in a pile

But covering the grass like a carpet

Above them he saw a word

in white letters

D-I-V-I-N-I-T-Y

Divinity descends.

You should all think the same way as Yishu the Messiah, who, although He was in the image of God, did not consider equality to God as something to be exploited, but rather emptied Himself, took the image of a servant, and He was born in the likeness of humanity. And being found in form as a human, He humbled Himself, and He was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ~ Philippians 2:5-8

This One that was humbled beneath the angels we do see, and this is Yishu, because of the suffering of His death. Glory and honor have been placed on Him because, in His grace, God tasted death on behalf of everyone. Indeed, it was quite appropriate that the God by whose hand and because of whom everything exists, and who brought many children to glory, should also bring the Prince of their life to perfection through His suffering. ~ Hebrews 2:9-10

What is Pure, Unbreakable, and Unending comes to meet the dying and fallen. It is the way of Christ, and Christ is God.¹

The Christian orthodox term for sanctification is stronger than what is used in the west. That term is “theosis.”

Theosis is the process of becoming gods. This at first glance, in the west anyway, appears blasphemous. How that statement is typically viewed, is as some sort of power grab. Perhaps our highly competitive western spirit has disabled us from thinking clearly about what the Lord has done, and is doing in us.

The Bridegroom (John 3:29) says,

*Have you not read that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and He said, For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and be united to his wife, and the two of them will become one flesh? So they are not two, but one body. Therefore let no human separate what God has joined together.
~ Matthew 19:4-6*

And in another place He says,

That they may all be one, just as You are in Me, My Father, and I am in You, that they may also be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as We are One. I am in them and You are in Me, that they may be perfected as one ~John 17:21-23

The bride of the Bridegroom is immersed in darkness. The Scriptures allegorically depict this when men of God love and marry a woman of darker skin: Joseph and Asenath, Moses and Tsipporah, Solomon and Pharaoh's daughter, and possibly the Queen of the South. Solomon describes this bride, she declares, *"I am black but beautiful, you daughters of Jerusalem.* ~ *Song of Songs 1:5.*

The Bridegroom says,

The Queen of the South will rise up in judgment with the people of this generation and condemn them, because she came from the far reaches of the earth to hear Solomon's wisdom, and yet One greater than Solomon is here. ~ Luke 11:31

The Scriptures clearly depict women trapped in the true darkness of prostitution marrying a son of Israel: Rahab and Salmon, Tamar and Judah, Gomer and Hosea.

What is the point of this depiction, other than to show that despite humanity's fallen state, Almighty God still loves, cherishes, and sees as beautiful, humankind. He descends to humanity in order to bring mankind into union and oneness with Himself.

We are not just called to hear the wisdom of Yishu, but to marriage/union with Him, and this is our great purpose, which is only accessible through the Christian life, for *The kingdom of heaven is like a King who gave a wedding feast for his son.* ~ *Matthew 22:2*

Your Maker is your husband;

YHWH tsebaoth (of hosts) is His name

~ Isaiah 54:5

The orthodox teaching of theosis has been passed down by the Lord Himself, it is He Himself who declares, *Is it not written in your Law: 'I said you are gods?' ~ John 10:34.* This thought was explained by our Lord's disciple John (90), when he wrote,

See how great is the Father's love toward us, that he has called us sons, and made us such. Therefore the world does not know us because it also did not know Him. My friends, we are now God's children, and it has not yet been revealed what we will become; but we know that when He appears, we will be made into His likeness, and we will see Him as He is. ~ 1 John 3:1-2

Saint John's disciple Saint Polycarp (155) wrote,

If we please Him in this present world, we will receive the world to come as well, inasmuch as He promised that He will raise us from the dead, and that, if we prove to be citizens worthy of Him, we will also reign with Him, if that is, we continue to believe. ~ Polycarp, Philipians 5:2c.

Saint Polycarp's disciple Saint Irenaeus (202) continued,

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who did, through His transcendent love, become what we are, that He might bring us to be even what He is Himself. ~ Preface to Against Heresies, Book 5

For this is why the Word became man, and the Son of God became the Son of man: so that man, by entering into communion with the Word and thus receiving divine sonship, might become a son of God. ~ Against Heresies, Book 3, 19:1

Saint Athanasius Patriarch (Pope) of Alexandria (373) echoes them by saying, *God became man so that man could become God.*

And Saint Maximos the Confessor (662) says, *All that God is, except for an identity in being, one becomes when one is deified by grace.*

King Yishu says, *Be holy for I am holy.*

The holy state of God is fiery, because it is purifying. It continually purifies from sin:

Holy, holy, holy, is YHWH of hosts:

the whole earth is full of His glory.

And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, YHWH of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged. ~ Isaiah 6:3-7

For,

It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth is what defiles a person. ~ Matthew 15:11

Glimpses of our final deified state can be witnessed externally, even prior to our resurrection. This is seen in the life of our Lord when He was transfigured on a mountain (Matthew 17:1-8), and also in Moses' life when his face shone when coming down from the mountain (Exodus 34:29-35), in addition to these exemplars are the desert Fathers of the Church, demonstrated as follows:

Abba Lot went to Abba Joseph and said to him, "Abba, as far as I can I say my little office, I fast a little, I pray and meditate, I live in peace as far as I can, I purify my thoughts. What else can I do?" Then the old man stood up and stretched his hands toward heaven. His fingers became like ten lamps of fire and he said to him, "If you will, you can become all flame." ~ Evergetinos

Saint Patriarch (Pope) Kyrillos the VI of Alexandria (1971), is one who several saw become fire during his prayer time, and was known to translocate... that sounds new age. It is not. It is the result of a human being willing to give himself over in love, fully to his Master, who is the fiery, all holy God.

The Apostle Peter wrote,

He has given to you through great and honorable promises, through which you might become participants in the Divine Nature, even while you flee from the corruption of worldly desires. ~ 2 Peter 1:4

2nd Peter gives us the glimpse into how this great promise is accomplished, we must *flee from the corruption of worldly desires.*

Yisbu told him, Love the Lord your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first command. ~Matthew 22:37-38

Adulterous people! Have you not realized that to be the world's friend is to be God's enemy? In fact, anyone who wants to be the world's friend becomes God's enemy. ~ James 4:4

When we continue to cling to the world in our Christian life, our soul remains sick and filled with dross, but conversely the more we cling to our Lord and Husband in our Christian life, the more we are healed, which results in His Light revealed and shining in, and ultimately through us, in the literal sense. Just as when an ill patient, who stays faithful to the treatment, is healed and fully recovers. We are sick with the vices: wrath, jealousy, envy, fornication, etc. Love for, and continual submission to Christ and His commandments brings healing to our souls.

Divinity descends.

Whoever wants to follow Me, should deny themselves, take up their cross every day and follow Me.

~ Luke 9:23

The corruption of worldly desires is found within us, in our selfish desires: *fornication, impurity, immodesty, idolatry, magic, hostility, discord, jealousy, wrath, contention, divisions, factions, envy, murder, drunkenness, revelry, and everything else like these. ~ Galatians 5:19-21*

When we voluntarily offer these desires to be crucified and killed, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to practice *what God the Father sees as being pure and holy service for Him [...] bringing aid to orphans and widows who are in great trouble, and keeping oneself free from all worldly corruption. ~ James 1:27*

Our Lord teaches that,

Whoever loves Me keeps My word. My Father will love them, and We will come to them and make Our dwelling place with them. But the one who does not love Me does not keep My word; and this word that you hear is not Mine, but belongs to the Father who sent Me. ~ John 14:23-24

The Lord's word (or commands) are found in many places in Scripture, but mainly concentrated in Matthew 5, 6, and 7. This is the teaching that instructs us to *flee the corruption of worldly desire* in the purification of our hearts, to love God in prayer, being still before Him, to help those in need, to fast, etc. These pave the way to union with our Husband, these pave the way to theosis.

We are called to participate in the sufferings of Christ (Philippians 3:10, 1 Peter 4:13). When we suffer our own will to be executed in place of His, this begins our participation in His sufferings.

Indeed, it was quite appropriate that the God by whose hand and because of whom everything exists, and who brought many children to glory, should also bring the Prince of their life to perfection through His suffering. ~ Hebrews 2:9-10

The Lord's sweat becoming like blood (Luke 22:44) clearly unveils His decision to submit to His Father's will in place of His own. We must, in a way, sweat this same Blood, and when we do, through His grace, it will bring us to perfection, glorification, deification... it will bring us to union with our Husband, the only true and living God. And in the same breath we do not have to sweat the same blood, for the stripes on the back of Yishu, and His being transfixed to the cross is the only means any of this is accomplished. However, our heart posture during this process of healing and deification will bring us to different measures of faith, and subsequently to different measures of glory.

Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. ~ Daniel 12:3

There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differs from another star in glory. ~ 1 Corinthians 15:41

For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. ~ Romans 12:3

The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith.' ~ Luke 17:5

What is Pure, Unbreakable, and Unending comes to meet the dying and fallen. It is the way of Christ, and Christ is God.

May you enjoy your process of theosis.

All glory to His Name.