

Part IV

“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.’” (John 6:35-40)

“...not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me” implies that Jesus had a choice to make on a continuous basis to either do His Father’s will, or to do something else. It also implies that by emptying Himself, His existence in human form subjected Him to the issue of having to choose to be obedient.

How did He do that? By seeking His Father’s will in everything. As He passed through the day, without fail He was consistently Living with His Father looking for what His Father wanted to do with Him by the Holy Spirit. He did that by sensing His Father’s leading from the Holy Spirit while looking for what His Father was doing in the world around Him. Jesus did this by depending upon the Holy Spirit and His Heavenly Father for everything.

From God’s perspective a relationship without choice is a relationship without meaning on this earth. It has been that way ever since God first created Adam and Eve. In essence while we are on this earth Love has little or no meaning if choice has no place within a Love based relationship.

Jesus Loved the Father by choice while He was on this earth. His Love relationship with His Father in Heaven was a fountain of Joy and Perfect Love within Jesus. This was possible through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit within Him.

Key to that was the utmost Joy Jesus experienced when doing what His Father wanted to do with Him. The only exception being prior to Him being arrested, falsely accused, illegally judged, flogged, crucified and separated from His Father while dying on the cross. Jesus did not need to be equal with God in all aspects in order to be overjoyed with the Glory of His Father being manifested in the world with, and through Him.

Obedience was not a task; it was eternal Joy. Jesus had an entirely different perspective on what it meant to obey His Father. A perspective that was far different than most everyone today.

How can there be anything more exciting, fulfilling, or which provides a greater purpose of being than to work in Unity with God the Father? This is not something to think about it's something to celebrate and for us to do with Jesus and the Holy Spirit without hesitation.

Some say it was impossible for Jesus to sin. How can temptation truly exist if no choice to be disobedient exists at all? Without a choice there can be no temptation. Just some experience of seeing what temptation is like for everyone else as a spectator.

The writer of Hebrews stated this plainly when writing about Jesus as our "high priest". "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

Jesus' experience was not about knowing, it was about participating in an existence as a human being, while getting to work and speak in Unity with the Father without committing any sins. He did this while remaining God/the-Word in the flesh and living within the necessary limitations of being emptied of His equality with God. All of this so He and God the Father and Spirit could become one with us forever.

Instead of ignoring the potential of being one in Christ, and seeking to avoid the responsibility of obedience, can we do something different for a change? Why not grasp ahold firmly in our faith to our new Relationship with God, in Jesus, by the Holy Spirit? How about discovering the abundant Life Jesus is within us?

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matthew 6:33)

"See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (I Thessalonians 5:15-18)

"*We are* destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ," (2 Corinthians 10:5)

Being able to have these and so many other Scriptures fulfilled in us can only happen by being one with Jesus, and understanding what that means from God's perspective rather than ours. Then we can adopt God's perspective as our own and change the way we think by aligning our thoughts with God's Truth.

We just might discover that obedience is not a task for us, but true Joy that is nothing but an honest expression of who we really are; the result of being one in and with Jesus Christ.

We may find out that obedience is easy, and really ought to be called something else. Yes! Like Fun, Excitement, Wonderful Opportunities! Wow! Now that's more in alignment with Jesus.

Let's get to know God better by improving our experiences within our new Relationship with God.

Ready? Here we go!