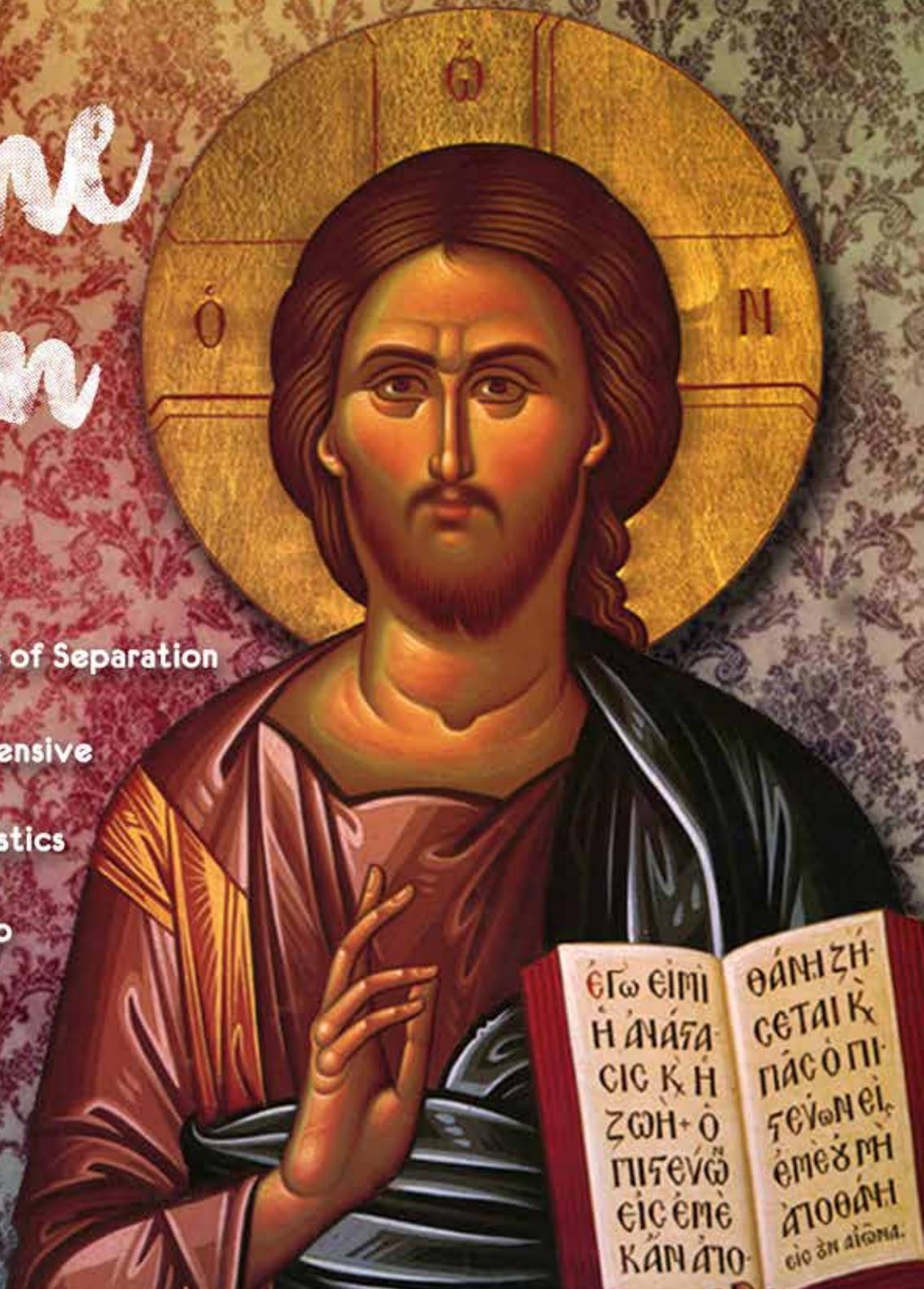


# THE ecstatic

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early 2019 issue

divine  
union



Divine Union & The Lie of Separation

Telos: A Weeklong Intensive

Meditations of the Mystics

Join us on a Mission Trip  
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The Veil has Been Torn

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ΕΓΩ ΕΙΜΙ  
Η ΑΝΑΣΤΑ  
ΣΙΣ ΚΑΙ Η  
ΖΩΗ· Ο  
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ΕΙΣ ΕΜΕ  
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## Register for Cana Seminary E-Course in March

If you have ever considered studying theology, but want a Spirit-filled, Christ-centered course — consider becoming an online student of Cana New Wine Seminary this fall and study at your own pace. Registration opens March 27 for the earlybird discount. Dive into the supernatural, intoxicating Gospel as we release the word of Grace in an atmosphere of joy unspeakable! Teachers include John & Lily Crowder, Dr. C. Baxter Kruger, Matt Spinks, Francois Du Toit, Dr. Eric Wilding, Rod Williams and more. The full course runs two years, with one session per week for an easy pace. Class begins Oct. 30. For more info, see story on page 17 and visit: [www.cana.co](http://www.cana.co)



## Construction Complete on New SOT Orphanage

Thanks to your support, we have finally completed construction on our new children's home outside Manila, Philippines. We have made two team trips to the nation in the past year. Now that our facility is complete, we can soon begin taking in new children as we finalize governmental approval. We are partnering with our friends in ministry, Life-Child Asia, to help us oversee the local work and ensure our children are well cared for as we provide food, shelter, clothing, education and love. Currently, we also continue to operate our India children's home outside of Mumbai, where we have supported dozens of abandoned children since 2007.



## Telos Weeklong Intensive in USA & Australia

We are hosting a special destination event in both the USA and Australia in 2019 called Telos. This unique, seven-day foundation course is a jam-packed, concentrated intensive that is both supernatural and theological. Our goal is to rework our entire understanding of the Gospel from the bottom up: reorienting everything we know through the lens of Christology and the finished work of the cross. This will be a no-holds-barred doctrinal detox in a life-giving atmosphere of Holy Spirit intoxication. Part micro-seminary. Part camp meeting. Early registration is recommended as space will be limited. See more on page 16 and visit [www.thenewmystics.com/telos](http://www.thenewmystics.com/telos)



## Join Our Russia Gospel Collusion Mission Trip

Time to step out of the boat and hit the nations with us! We are hosting an opportunity for you to join our ministry team as we visit *four countries* in June 2019. Our Russia Gospel Collusion Mission will travel to Ukraine, Latvia, Moldova and two stops in Russia. This is one of the most extensive missions we have ever opened to applicants. If you want to be used on the mission field to release the saving, healing, delivering power of Jesus, consider signing up. Applications and deposits are due by February 15. There is still time to raise funds after that, but space is limited. Early registration is recommended. Find out more on page 14 and visit [www.thenewmystics.com/russia](http://www.thenewmystics.com/russia)



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Make sure to download the latest version of the "New Mystics" app which is on both iPhone and Android platforms. The app is now available as a free download. Get all our Jesus Trip video archives in one spot, find current events and read a digital version of The Ecstatic magazine on your mobile device. Simply look for "New Mystics" at the iPhone app store to get the Apple version, or search for us on Google Play to get the Android version. Be sure to allow notifications, and each week you'll get a friendly message from us alerting you to the latest free Jesus Trip video as it gets posted.



## Philippines Prison, Slums & Homeless Outreach

Thanks to your support, we have made two missions to the Philippines since the last installment of *The Ecstatic*. In November, we launched out to three islands with a large event in Manila, boating in to an unreached village, ministering in slums and visiting orphans. We also held a feeding program for the homeless and street children. In addition, the team preached in a local prison, ministering to transvestites, drug addicts and criminals with 200 men crammed into a single, sweltering cell, eager to worship and hear the Gospel (more on page 13). We appreciate your partnership! Find a trip where you can join us at [www.thenewmystics.com/missions](http://www.thenewmystics.com/missions)



## Join us on a Mission Trip to Brazil this August

You can join a life-changing adventure to the nation of Brazil as part of the Sons of Thunder team in August 2019. Be a wild wanderer! Release the intoxicating love of Jesus; experience the raw, miracle working power of God and equip churches and pastors in the message of Grace. We will also bless the poorest of the poor with outreaches to the slums. We will minister in Rio de Janeiro and at the beaches of Cabo Frio where we will catch some waves in our down time. This is our lowest cost mission trip ever and is currently open to applicants. Space is limited. Application and deposit are due March 1. See story on page 14 and visit [www.thenewmystics.com/brazil](http://www.thenewmystics.com/brazil)



## Theology & Scotch: Scotland Gentlemen's Retreat

Conversation. Worship. Whiskey ... If you are a gentleman who appreciates theology and fine scotch, we are hosting a small, exclusive retreat to Speyside Scotland in August 2019. John Crowder and Dr. C. Baxter Kruger, together with worship leader Godfrey Birtill will spend three days of personal interaction, theological discussion and worship together, along with tours to the local distilleries of Glenfiddich and MacAllan in the capital of Scotland's single malts. Space is extremely limited and thus reflected in the premium registration fee. Cost is £300 and does not including lodging or airfare. This trip is strictly limited to the first 30 registrants. Visit [www.thenewmystics.com/Scotland](http://www.thenewmystics.com/Scotland)



## SOT Reaching Pakistan, Afghanistan & More

In December, John Crowder preached via telecast to a large crowd in Pakistan. Next spring, he will be there in person for another large outreach event. In addition, his team will visit Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. These trips are not currently open to applicants, but consider partnering with SOT's efforts in the Islamic regions of Central Asia. John will also travel again to communist Cuba in 2019, and several other nations we cannot publicly disclose. As we venture into regions many fear to tread, we value your prayers and support to make this happen. You can financially support our missions at: [www.paypal.me/johncrowder](http://www.paypal.me/johncrowder)



## Save \$80: Get All Our Books & A Free T-Shirt

We are currently running a special package box set of all eight books written by John and Lily Crowder, together with free USA shipping and discounted international postage. Plus while supplies last, we will include a free New Mystics T-shirt. Share deep insights on the supernatural Gospel of Grace with your friends and loved ones, or just treat yourself. This package saves you more than \$80 off retail. Books include: *Mystical Union*, *Money. Sex. Beer. God.*, *Cosmos Reborn*, *Chosen for Paradise*, *Grace for the Contemplative Parent*, *The New Mystics*, *Seven Spirits Burning* and *The Ecstasy of Loving God*. Check it out at our Web store: [www.johncrowder.net/box](http://www.johncrowder.net/box)



## Miracle Evangelism in Kashmir & Nepal

Since our last edition of *The Ecstatic* magazine, John Crowder and Matt Spinks led a team both to Nepal and the volatile region of Kashmir, India for mass miracle evangelism campaigns, feeding the poor and equipping pastors. Many miraculous healings were reported as the lame walked, and physical ailments were cured by the power of Jesus Christ. More photos from this mission endeavor are on page 13. If you have a heart for missions, consider joining one of our upcoming trips in 2019 that are open for applicants as John takes teams to Russia and Brazil. Find more information on those trips on page 14, or visit our missions page at: [www.thenewmystics.com/missions](http://www.thenewmystics.com/missions)

# Contents

## From the Publisher ...

*The Ecstatic* is back! During our sabbatical, we closed shop on the magazine for 2018. Here in this latest issue you can see all the fresh activities we now have planned in the coming year. In particular, we are excited to introduce an innovative weeklong course called Telos, which will be a jam-packed Gospel-fest coming to both the USA and Australia in 2019. Well worth your time to trek in for a pilgrimage (see page 16). We are also excited to bring a brand new year of Cana New Wine Seminary, our completely online e-course with an amazing lineup of teachers in which you can participate right from your own home (see page 17). Additionally, our mission trip junkies will be glad to learn we have two overseas offerings where you can join us as part of the ministry team. We're taking a team to Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Latvia – four countries in one expedition next June on our Russia Gospel Collusion Mission! Also, we're headed to South America bringing a Sons of Thunder team to Brazil in August. Find both trips on page 14.

We have a number of other schools and special conference events planned. Due to the raving success of our sold-out gentlemen's retreat in Scotland last year, we are hosting another round of this exclusive getaway in the Speyside region in August, replete with distillery tours, theology and worship with myself, Baxter Kruger and Godfrey Birtill. The same week, we will be hosting a full three-day event in Bristol, UK entirely on the Nicene Creed – this idea that we've been brainstorming with Baxter for several years is finally coming to reality.

## About this issue

The theme of this current edition is quite targeted. We are addressing the concept of divine union, over against the pagan Greek "separation thinking" that has unfortunately infiltrated the church over the centuries. I have written an extensive, original article "Divine Union and the Lie of Separation." Also we have a guest piece on this same topic from contributor Brett Endress.

Be sure to also check out our resource materials including books and audio found at [www.johncrowder.net](http://www.johncrowder.net) We are currently running a discounted package to get our written materials into more readers' hands: get a box of every single one of our books together with a new T-Shirt. Also, there's our Joypod MP3 player loaded with every full-length audio teaching from our store (as well as our two audiobooks: *Mystical Union* and my latest work, *Money. Sex. Beer. God.*)

## Stay Subscribed to *The Ecstatic*

Some select US addresses receive a print copy of the magazine, but we now host a digital version online for readers around the globe. Be sure you visit our homepage at [www.TheNewMystics.Com/Ecstatic](http://www.TheNewMystics.Com/Ecstatic) and enter your email address to join our free newsletter – this will ensure you receive each issue to your inbox twice a year, together with our regular free Jesus Trip teaching videos. You can also view the magazine on our free iPhone and Android "New Mystics" apps.

We value your support to keep the magazine and ministry running. Your generous contributions make the publication available to all and enable us to spread Good News to the ends of the globe.

## What we're all about

We at Sons of Thunder produce *The Ecstatic* as a way to bring a cohesive voice to the growing interest in authentic, mystical Christianity – but a mysticism rooted in the grace message of Christ's cross – not in human attempt at spiritual disciplines or mental ascent.

In a practical sense, *The Ecstatic* serves as an information gateway to the ministry of John & Lily Crowder. But moreover, it is a first fruit in publishing toward bridging several important themes that are converging at the moment: finished work theology, the miraculous, divine satisfaction and daily human existence in the divine life. All of these concepts are intrinsically woven together. A new, reformed Christ-centered mysticism is on the rise. It is bridging many streams. Relevant is its cultural approach. Radical is its charismatic fervor. Reformative is its theology of grace. These are guiding values of this publication and our own lives. It is a theological journal whose frequency is joy unspeakable.

## Fully Satisfied ...

### John Crowder

Founder, Sons of Thunder Publications

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Email: [info@thenewmystics.org](mailto:info@thenewmystics.org)  
Phone: 1-877-343-3245  
Address: P.O. Box 40, Marylhurst, OR 97036  
[www.TheNewMystics.com](http://www.TheNewMystics.com)

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# Divine Union and the Lie of Separation

## *How Paganism in the Pulpit has Blinded us to the True Gospel*

by John Crowder

How far has the church drifted from its ancient moorings when union with God is considered heretical? And yet the very substance of the ancient faith is that Jesus' complete and unbroken union with His Father in the Holy Spirit has now been fully and freely poured out to us thanks to His incarnation, life, death and resurrection.

Of course, secular society (and the church!) may not recognize, experience or relationally participate in this union. But just because we are not conscious of the One who sustains us, nor aware of his ever-present eternal bond of love toward us, this does not negate a full and complete union all of humanity has with God in Jesus Christ. There is nothing we can do to break away from Him and nothing we can do to get closer. He has forever bound Himself to our humanity in Jesus. This is now true of every last individual on the planet, regardless of their believing the facts or not.

But the starting point for our understanding of God in the Western Church today usually begins with a concept of separation, not union. Most do not recognize the depths to which we've been handed down a modified version of Greek paganism that is relentlessly sold as the Christian message. Greek thinking, based upon Plato, starts from a perspective of separation and estrangement between God and this world. This is called *dualism*. It is why there are so many "divisions" between our spirituality and our normal day-to-day human activity. Thanks to the church's adoption of the pagan thinking of Plato long ago, we still believe that God is removed from our darkened world.

### What is the Darkness?

Yes, there is darkness in the world. But is the darkness of humanity a thing that caused God to withdraw from us? Sin caused us to run from God. But sin caused God to run directly toward us. He never shrunk back from us because of our sin, rather He relentlessly pursued us for redemption and healing. It is important to define the "darkness" into which humanity finds itself plunged ... this darkness we see

in John chapter 1 "does not comprehend" the Light of the world that has come to us. Later, in the third chapter of John, we also see that men loved this darkness, instead of the light, because their deeds were evil.

Let us define what this darkness is: it is not merely man's evil deeds. Men loved darkness *because* of those evil deeds, not wanting them exposed. *The darkness rather is the very delusion of separation itself.* An attempt at hiding from a God who has relentlessly pursued us and united Himself to us in His own embrace of the human condition. I would contend that our darkness is the very delusion of fallen Adam which religion was invented to enforce, and a

***Our religious structures today depend heavily on maintaining this delusion of darkness and separation in order to exist. Religion builds an industry on the concept of distance from God.***

lie which Jesus came to awaken us from. God never abandoned us. Darkness is the lie that we can exist apart from God – find a bush to hide under where God is not. The Light is shining right in the midst of the darkness, but the darkness does not comprehend it. Our religious structures today depend heavily on maintaining this delusion of darkness and separation in order to exist. Religion builds an industry on the concept of distance from God.

For today's religionist, the true Gospel is a foreign message. There is a "break" in our union with God that requires human faith to bridge the gap, and religious activity to "get closer" or obtain "more of God." This is endemically tied to a perceived "break" in the Trinity: a Trinity that implodes upon itself as the Father supposedly turns His back on the Son at the cross, while Holy Spirit stands shell-shocked in the corner of the room as Jesus abates His Father's wrath. Jesus is reduced to "one facet" of a higher, perhaps darker, legal God looming over His shoulder

demanding blood. But God doesn't do abandonment. And to see Jesus on the cross is to see the full love of the entire Trinity. If we could return to a real vision of Jesus and a proper understanding of the Trinity, all of the nonsense falls aside, and the real Gospel becomes clear. Jesus Christ is both the full picture of the heart of God, and the declaration of His eternal union with humanity. In His very being, Christ unites divinity and humanity in one unmingled Person. You are one with God because Jesus exists. Creation is held together in Him.

### The Light of Union

If we correctly define darkness as "separation thinking," how do we define the Light that is now shining in the darkness of our confusion and our twisted sense of alienation from God (John 1:5)? Is the Light Jesus Himself? Yes. Is the Light the *life* that He gives us? Yes. *In Him was life, and the life was the light of men* (John 1:4). But furthermore, can I suggest more pointedly that the life and light that Jesus embodies and which He brings, is the eternal face-to-face communion He has with His Father from the beginning, before all worlds: the unbroken union of Trinitarian love that dispels every myth of rejection, disappointment or separation? For in context, this is how the book of John begins: with Jesus existing as God, face-to-face in perfect union and fellowship with His Father. This relationship is the light of the ages.

The myth of separation from God is tied directly to the myth of separation between Jesus and His Father. The paganism that ultimately attacks Jesus' full divinity and consubstantiality with His Father is the very same spirit of condemnation that leaves you feeling abandoned, alone or unworthy of His divine love if you don't live up to certain performance standards. But Holy Spirit on the other hand is the very Spirit of divine Love that always points you to the union and adoption that is yours in Jesus, the very same glory shared between the Father and the Son from the beginning.

Today's Western Evangelicalism, with its flawed pagan mindset of separation from God and Jesus pay-



ing off a “higher” deity, overwhelmingly regurgitates an ancient heresy called Arianism. It is not Christianity (Arianism says Jesus is “less than” the Father — we’ll touch on that later). Of course, Evangelicals will not own up to such a charge. But I will assist them in this article to come to terms with the pagan darkness being spewed from the pulpit. Separation, not union, is the real heresy. The church’s problem will never be that she has overestimated Christ and His finished work. Rather, we have radically underestimated Him, and therefore continue to deny glory to Jesus. And we have denied the glory of His Father by casting Him in an image that looks different than the Son.

### Religion is Separation-Thinking

The moment the church strays into the muddy, demonic waters of dualism, of separation-thinking, religion is invented in order to get us back into God’s good favor.

“Christianity is not a religion; it is the proclamation of the end of religion. Religion is a human activity dedicated to the job of reconciling God to humanity and humanity to itself. The Gospel, however — the Good News of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is the astonishing announcement that God has done the whole work of reconciliation without a scrap of human assistance. It is the bizarre proclamation that religion is over—period,” writes Fr. Robert Capon. “The cross is a sign of the fact that religion can’t do a thing about the world’s problems.”

The idea you can get *into* Christ or have Him get *into* you is perhaps the biggest religious heresy of the West. Yet it is the heartbeat of Evangelicalism. It’s the driving force behind the whole dog and pony show. Starting from a flawed notion of *distance* denies the very deity of Jesus *through whom all things came into being* (John. 1:3). For not one second has any part of creation (you included) existed *outside* of Jesus. The idea of separation likewise denies the full humanity of Jesus, who fully assumed our human nature in order to fully redeem our human nature. This is nothing we could have achieved on our own. The great theologian Thomas F. Torrance was fond of describing Christ’s humanity as a “vicarious humanity,” because in His human existence, He represents *all* of mankind’s human existence before the Father in perfect union. As church father Gregory of Nazianzus states it, “He assumes the poverty of my flesh that I might inherit the riches of His Godhead.” Furthermore, the lie that anyone whosoever is separate from God, presupposes the idolatrous idea that

we, by our faith or works, are humanly capable of sustaining or saving ourselves. Salvation was never a thing to be thrown back into our own laps of human doing or believing. It is always sourced in Jesus Himself.

The lie of separation denies that “He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together” (Col. 1:17). Where are you held together? In Him. Where are unbelievers held together? In Him. Likewise, “(He) fills every thing in every way” (Eph. 1:23). Faith doesn’t get you in the club. Faith is the recognition and acceptance of your already given inclusion into the life of God. It is the wake-up call to reality. As Dr. C. Baxter Kruger says, “The Gospel is not inviting Jesus into your life. It is the good news that He has already included you in His life.”

### Drink Grace Straight

By diminishing and radically removing any human-engineered, transactional religious activity in getting onto God’s *good side*, or acquiring a bigger portion from Him — by stripping the sacred cow of religion down to the very bone and not giving one inch of

***The idea you can get into Christ or have Him get into you is perhaps the biggest religious heresy of the West. Yet it is the heartbeat of Evangelicalism.***

ground to human effort and the lie of separation or paying off an angry God ... only then can we truly begin to drink the pure, unmixed message of the Gospel of grace. It is unending bliss and abundance. It is having our cake and eating it too. It is the scandal of His goodness which we could never have dreamed up, much less acquired, yet has relentlessly been poured into us freely and single-handedly in Jesus. As Capon again so marvelously says, “Grace has to be drunk straight: no water, no ice, and certainly no ginger ale. ...” There is nothing you can add to grace. There is not one iota you contributed to your salvation except for one thing — your only contribution was to damn and crucify the Son of God. Your own sins were only contribution you ever made to salvation or union with God. This is breathtakingly scandalous.

But we all know there are mixed messages out there.

It is no conspiracy theory to suggest that pagan sep-

aration has infected our theology to the very core in the church: in America, Europe and all of the West. For one, it posits a separation between you and Jesus. Secondly, it posits a separation between Jesus and His Father. And of course, it goes without saying it presents a separation between you and the daily, abiding activity of Holy Spirit - Who must be drummed up like “the Force” from Star Wars, and only provides a fleeting encounter or occasional goosebump at best. Fast yourself a little sicker and pray a little harder ... maybe then you’ll get *more* of the Spirit, right?

After all of that, this line of thinking will most definitely posit a devastating divorce between your spirituality and your organic life on earth as well. Booze, money or any earthly enjoyment is going to be forbidden (everything from dancing to chewing gum on Sunday is evil ... if you’re Amish you can’t even wear buttons) because God is ultimately apart from and against every imaginable earthly delight (see my book *Money, Sex, Beer, God*. for more on that topic). The concept of separation goes deeper and deeper until this delusional religious darkness shatters even *you*, theologically breaking you into different parts: body, soul and spirit. Of course, only the untouchable latter part, your *spirit*, has the remote chance of becoming “positionally holy” and united to God — while your filthy soul and body are fractured away into a lifelong *process of sanctification* (which usually involves copious amounts of inner healing, prayer, fasting and watching only G-rated movies). Needless to say, none of this is remotely scriptural, but is the direct photocopy of the philosophy of Plato. Paganism. A philosophy of a separate, distant God who cannot relate to your material, physical humanity.

### Humanity in Union with Christ

To suggest that everyone has already been included and made whole in the life of Jesus is considered the ultimate heresy in the Western world, when in fact it is the very message of Gospel. To speak of a Gospel claim on all of humanity is not Universalism (only people who don’t know the Gospel would make such an uninformed accusation). Like it or not, God has bound every last soul to Himself in Jesus’ saving act. The Gospel does not demand faith for this to be real. Rather, the Gospel *provides* faith that this is already real. It is the declaration that “as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive” (1 Cor. 15:22). It is the declaration, not the mere potential, that God chose “through Him to reconcile to Himself all things,

*Continued on page 8* 



# Mystical School REDDING

with John Crowder

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whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross" (Col. 1:20). The Apostle Paul was standing out of his mind in ecstasy in 1 Corinthians 5:13, because he recognized that if "one died for all, therefore all died." The cross of Christ mystically affected all.

The greater objective reality for all human beings, despite their living in the subjective illusion of separation from God, is this truth which Paul told the pagans on Mars Hill: "For in Him we live and move and have our being." As some of your own poets have said, "We are His offspring" (Acts 17:28). Note that Paul said this to *unbelieving pagans*, who according to him are *in God* as well as God's own offspring. This was the scandal of God's inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of the Jewish Messiah, but today we have reconstituted the Jewish-Gentile divide under the guise of "believer vs. unbeliever."

Not only are all men "in Christ," but they are sharers in His death to sin He died on their behalf, making them 100 percent perfect and holy. Of course, they may fight against this truth and not be subjectively walking it out in their daily lives! It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see unbelievers aren't usually walking in perfect holiness! Again, "Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil" (John 3:19). Like it or not indeed, Jesus Christ is "the atoning sacrifice ... for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2). Every last human being dwells in God, and every last sin has been pitched down the black hole of His broken servant body. That's good news, whether you want to enjoy the party or not.

But quote these verses above and be prepared to see that deer-in-the-headlights look in the face of the Western church. "This must be heresy! This must be 'all-dogs-go-to-heaven-whether-or-not-you-receive-Jesus-universalism!'" This is actually the very foundation for an unspeakable joy and a life of divine bliss, lived in eternal, unbroken communion. But Evangelicals love to extract the "all" verses right out of the pages of scripture, in order to exclude a vast portion of humanity from the life of God, without some modicum of human "faith response" as a prerequisite. "But you must believe!" Faith is not the one surcharge to the Gospel. Rather, it is the only appropriate response to the Gospel! "You're already in thanks to God, therefore believe and live like your true holy self!"

**Realizing Union**

Faith is the realization of our union, not the effective

cause of it. As Jesus so clearly points out in John 14:20, "in that day you will **realize** I am in the Father and You are in me and I am in you." Or consider when Jesus spoke to the unconverted Pharisees this vital truth:

*Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is within you (Luke 17:20-21).*

Jesus told those who did not even remotely believe in Him, and who would later crucify Him, that the kingdom of God was already within them.

For Evangelicals, steeped in pagan separation, this sounds precariously close to Universalism, as they assume you are writing off the reality of hell, or saying "everybody is saved" even though most don't remotely know what "salvation" means. Salvation is not a decision for Christ; it is Christ's decision for you. All their

**Faith is the realization of our union, not the effective cause of it. As Jesus so clearly points out ... 'in that day you will realize I am in the Father and you are in Me and I am in you.'**

lives, they have been indoctrinated that God separated Himself from us because of our sin. After all, "your sins have separated you from God" (Isa. 59:1). And hell is God's just punishment for sinners, who will fry in their own fat forever. Yes of course sin separated *you from God*. But sin never separated *God from you*. This is not just semantics, not just word play – it is a big deal. God never went anywhere. The New Testament never says God skirted off because of your naughty behaviour, and that Jesus died to twist His Father's arm to love you again. The New Testament never says Jesus died to reconcile *God back to you*. No, it says He was reconciling *you back to God*. Big difference. You were the one with the problem, not Him. You were the one running away in the delusion of darkness. He was always sitting right there with you, in the midst of your paranoid confusion about Him, trying to coax you back to sanity. He was always *for you*. He is forgiveness. But He was not okay with leaving you broken and alienated, hence the work of the cross.

God never pulled away. Like Adam, we were the ones

running and hiding in the bushes, withdrawing from intimacy, relationship and love - spiraling into non-being in our insecurity, alienation, fear, anxiety and self-willed corruption. We were the ones pushing for separation, running from a God Who is everywhere. These are the very things Jesus came to rescue us from. Hell is not His punishment of sinners; it is the end result of our own defiant rejection of the reality of this divine union. You can't break away from this divine flame of love. Hell is not separation from God; no one gets that much privacy. No, the more you resist His flame of love, your resistance is your own self-condemnation. He is not the enemy of the damned, but the Savior of the damned. He came to save the world, but the world stood self-condemned already because of their very rejection of Mr. Life. You are free to reject Him all you want, but you can't stop Him from loving and pursuing you. Jesus stepped down into the depth of our depravity. To the very bottom rung of the ladder — He swallowed up our darkness in uncreated light. He destroyed our decay, our depression, our decrepit state of separation in His own servant body on the cross. That, in a nutshell was the point of the cross – it was about curing the human condition, not paying off an angry Father who was against us.

**Union at Conversion or 'In Christ'?**

God did not create the world, then set it off to run like a machine on its own separate trajectory apart from Himself. Where does creation exist? In Him! He takes up all the space. Within Himself He has made a place where the vast infinite bounds of the universe exist. Creation never occurred in the mind of God as something that would be separate from Him. He has forever identified Himself with the created order. In the incarnation of Jesus Christ, He has eternally decided not to be God apart from humanity. There will forever be a human being seated in the middle of the Trinity. And there you are sat up with Him in the Trinity of God in the humanity of Jesus Christ.

Every last soul is in Jesus Christ. Doesn't mean they know it. Doesn't mean you aren't free to damn yourself in hell, but even hell (whatever it may be) isn't located outside the realm of "in Christ." The difference between the believer and unbeliever is simply that the believer *believes!* And it is only in that context of agreeing with divine reality that we begin to live it and supernaturally manifest it. So yes, faith is crucial! But the "new birth" or the "born again" experience is not the first moment Jesus magically jumped inside of you at an altar call. You were not separate, moving toward union at that moment. You were already in union, but



conversion is about experientially awakening from the lie of separation. For some people it may not even look like a big lightning bolt where you weep and are instantly delivered from gambling and pain meds. We don't trust in our subjective *experience* of conversion (however dramatic it may be). We trust in the objective fact upon which that conversion rests. Am I saved? Jesus Christ hanging on the tree is the proof of your salvation. Period.

The whole cosmos was born again in Jesus' death and resurrection. Not when you say a sinner's prayer. His death and resurrection (not your "decision") is the origin of the "whole new world" of the new creation. The moment of your conversion was merely the discovery of the reality of Christ who had already planted Himself within you before you ever voted on the matter! And this "conversion" (though vitally important) may look like a lifetime of awakening to the unexpected joy of God's grace.

The Apostle Paul speaks of his own road to Damascus conversion experience by saying, "God who set me apart *before I was born* and called me by His grace, was pleased to *reveal His Son within me.*" (Gal. 1:15-16). Paul (then Saul) was a jihadist on his way to slaughter Christian families, when something was revealed *within him* – not outside of him ... it was Christ in him, the hope of glory! God was inside murderous Jihad Saul long before he realized it.

What we call "conversion" is not a moving from separation to union. It is a *revealing* or perhaps the *experiencing* of an existing union made real in the Person of Christ; and conversion is the beginning of glorious *communion* which now enables our active participation in the life of God. Because of course we are called to a "relational union" whereby we ourselves consciously and willfully relate to God. Relationship is definitely a two-way street. But even your "human side" of this relationship with God is ultimately grounded vicariously in Jesus' own humanity: so this relationship is never hinging on your performance.

#### Awakening to Reality

One of my pet peeves is hearing "born agains" talk about the "saved and unsaved" and wrongly limiting the context of salvation to the question of "when" one "gets saved" (as if salvation was a transactional thing that happened to you when you first believed). It is humanistic, locked into time and self-effort – and most importantly is non-Christological. Evangelicals understand the "new birth" today about as much as Nicodemus did in John 3. You were not born again when you came to faith on some certain date. Conversion is about waking up to the eternal reality of how God

has always truly viewed you, through the perspective of Christ's finished work. As Thomas F. Torrance states, you were born again 2000 years ago when Christ came out of the virgin womb and stepped out of the virgin tomb. The new birth is the new creation centered in Christ Himself and His act of crucifixion. This is outside of time, and outside of your subjective "experience" of it. Faith means *believing* this Gospel reality - not making it happen. Part of the confusion is that salvation has also been reduced to an "in or out of hell" paradigm. We don't even have a grid for viewing salvation as a Person: Christ Himself is the very embodiment of salvation – therefore it's about participation and enjoyment of Him, versus continued rejection of Him.

From the beginning and all throughout Western church history, the adoption of Plato's Greek pagan lies of separation promoted the prevailing myth that God is "out there" somewhere. He can't relate to the fallen material world. This *dualism* is a splitting apart of spirit and material things – a division between God

**... Plato's Greek pagan lies of separation promoted the prevailing myth that God is "out there" somewhere. ... But the core of Jesus' message was a stark refutation of this ...**

and man. Dualism has pervaded the centuries: just as the Deist founding fathers of America believed God set the world into motion like a clock, running on its own laws, but never interacted with it. But the core of Jesus' message was a stark refutation of this: there is no separation between Heaven and Earth; the kingdom of Heaven is *at hand*. The only separation has been between our ears in our fallen mind. God never set Himself up as our enemy, requiring the death of His Son in order to coax Him into loving us. The only enmity between God and man existed in our darkened thinking, "Once you were alienated from God and were enemies *in your minds* because of your evil behavior. But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation" (Col. 1:21-22). We set ourselves up as His enemy, but He never returned the favor.

I am also not saying faith is about some gnostic head knowledge (intellectually knowing the right stuff about God in a mind-over-matter sort of way). We are created for deep, spiritual heart-felt experience of this union that is now ours. But changing our minds is definitely part of that process. The word we so often translate as "repentance" in scripture is actually *meta-*

*noia* in the Greek, which means "change your mind!" We must change our minds about the goodness of God and our inclusion in His life. That's why good Jesus-centered theology has its vital role. There is an awakening that encompasses our entire being – our hearts, not just our minds. But it is grounded in this timeless reality of a union that is already ours!

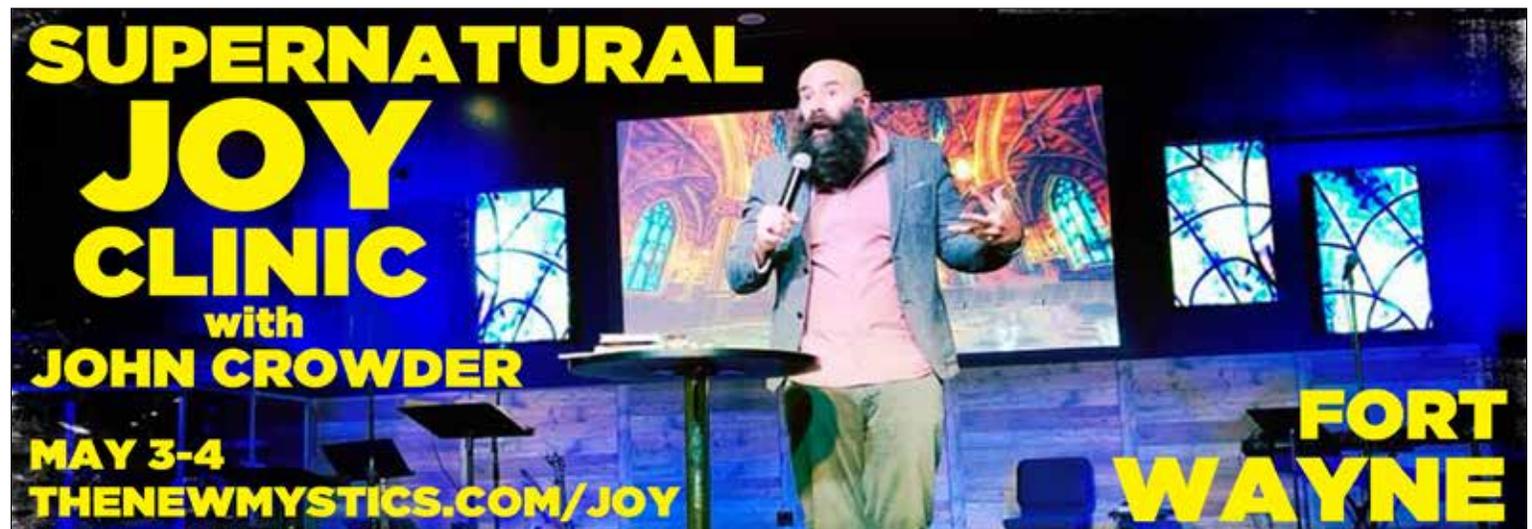
#### Unity in Distinction

All of creation exists within the fabric of who He is. He is and will be all in all. That doesn't mean *everything is God* in some pantheistic New Age way. Do not be mistaken: we are *distinct* from God (as creatures, we do not confuse ourselves for the Creator)! We are not "extensions" of Him as if everything is part of some nebulous God-blob. God is three persons in relation, and we too are distinct persons. For distinction is part of the beauty of relationship. Nevertheless, we are in *union* with Him. A relationship requires more than one person: you don't have a relationship with yourself. You are distinct from God, but not separate. Nothing is separate. Otherwise, the question is, what part of creation came into existence behind His back? When is the last time you heard a sermon on Jesus Christ as the Creator of all things? There's an underlying perception of Jesus as merely being a subordinate agent of the Father sent into creation (as a Mormon or Jehovah's Witness might believe). But Jesus is the Creator, and therefore *Upholder and Sustainer* of all things. Every breath you breath is Christological air. The Gospel life is one of continual ecstasy if you have eyes to see it. Unless we return to a Christ-like picture of God ... unless we recognize His full divinity and therefore His full bridging between God and the created order, then we think there are areas of our life where God *is not*. Darkened places in our daily living where He doesn't exist. Shadowy parts of this fallen world that He has shied away from — areas of our life, work, relationships that we wrongly perceive as being apart from Him. And this is the definition of schizophrenia. It fuels every sacred-secular divide. It fuels addiction, divorce and countless evils. We develop our "spiritual persona" which is always in contrast with our so-called *real-life* self. But to live authentically is to believe the truth of what God believes about you. Thanks to Jesus alone, you look just like Him. This revelation of our true identity frees us from schizophrenically partitioning off areas in our minds and our daily living where we think God is non-existent. Where we are hiding. Where we are in darkness.

#### Separation Fuels Religion

An unmixed, straight message of grace speaks of full bore, unhindered union - with no distance, delay, deficit or dispute. And an unmixed, straight message of

*Continued on page 10* 



grace speaks of God's unrelenting goodness, favor and unstoppable abundance toward us: He was and always will be good. You can't know that without looking at Jesus. But if Jesus is merely one face of an "out there/up there" God, then how could we ever really know God?

For many years in my ministry we have deconstructed religious legalisms aimed at getting closer to God (beat yourself up, combat already defeated devils, etc. etc.). We have often said that grace must be drunk straight. Grace plus law equals law. If human effort is involved, it ceases to be grace. If we are *working* toward union, then by definition it is no longer an act of grace. Jesus wasn't blowing smoke when He said "It is finished." Our vain, redundant attempts to re-accomplish what He has already done are the definition of antichrist works of religion. Not to mention, such heresy kills your buzz.

So, legalism is an ultimate destroyer of the joy, peace and ecstasy we were created for: it substitutes itself for relationship. We were made for raw, unbroken communion. And we are not only now united to Jesus but are furthermore participating in the glorious communion between Him and His Father in the Spirit.

Nevertheless, legalism is not our ultimate problem. Every church the apostle Paul planted eventually fell into one of two errors: either they fell back into Judaic legalism, or they fell into these Greek pagan ideas of separation. These are still our biggest pitfalls today. But we must see that these two things go hand-in-hand. Separation is the fuel behind all legalism and religion. Take separation off the table, and legalistic efforts to bridge the imaginary divide between you and God lose their foothold.

### The Theological Dartboard

Furthermore, the key is never merely to "be less religious." Plenty of people today love to boast in being irreligious and spend their time whining and deconstructing all things religious. No, the goal is to fix our eyes on Jesus. He is the declaration of man's union with God. Some folks will rightly say that God is loving and gracious, but without a clear picture of Jesus in sight, they are still bound to go off course in some area. In these days our social media driven society is fueled with outrage and righteous hatred of so many perceived evils (the evil of religious fundamentalism rightly included). But hating evil is not the same as being in joyful wonder about the Gospel itself. You just end up bitter.

Everything is always about Jesus. Even New Age and various world religions will rightly claim we are not

separate from God (often better articulating it than the church). But unless we are looking squarely at Jesus as the source and reason and living substance of that union, then any worldview or philosophy will ultimately throw the burden of spiritual growth and transcendence back up on you rather than Him. You can even see this with a number of "grace movement" people who just drift into theological liberalism, but lose sight that grace is not an abstract principle: He's a Person!

Furthermore, theology is not just about tossing random new ideas about God at the dart board: whether conservative or liberal. So much irrelevant theology consists of men aimlessly projecting their ideas about Him (often either tearing apart or idolizing scripture or putting their own unique twists on it to prove they have an "edge" over their ignorant religious brethren). But whatever the theological spin, if we still dualistically conceive of a God who is "over there," then we are writing reams and reams of irrelevant stacks of books that are still just complete guesswork about the nature of God. After all, how do we know anything about Him if there are a thousand ways to read scripture? How do we even know He is good? As valuable and inspired as scripture is, we must remember that the Person of Christ is God's ultimate Word. He wasn't just bringing a message, but He is the Message. It

**Separation is the fuel behind all legalism and religion. Take separation off the table, and legalistic efforts to bridge the imaginary divide between you and God lose their foothold.**

is only in looking at Christ that we know He is other-giving love. Only in looking at Christ can we know what love is.

Ironically, liberals and conservatives are both one in the same when they turn God into a philosophical construct. Jesus boldly stated that none of the professional religious guys of His day knew God, that everyone who went before Him (even the Patriarchs!) were thieves and robbers. John says it this way, "No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is Himself God" (John 1:18).

### Jesus vs. The God Apparatus

Employing "human wisdom" to figure God out is a hallmark of futile pagan Greek philosophy. This guesswork usually looks nothing like Jesus Christ: Emmanuel, God with us, Who is all in all. Furthermore, it is only in looking at the Christ of the scriptures that we begin to see anything of God's inner being as Trinity. Without Jesus as the ultimate lens of what God

is like, we project onto God ideas about His nature that are logically deduced from the "ground up" (human wisdom from below). And boy do we sure love to throw around scripture in that endeavor! Our scientific mental guesswork formulates a "God" whose being exists as a combination of abstract theological decrees. "God" becomes this combination of absolutist ideas we cobble together about His attributes: holiness, impassibility, justice, mercy, power, eternity, etc., etc. He's a divine force over yonder who operates by this list of metaphysical principles from our theological dartboard (again, we have no problem backing this all up with the Bible). Hence, you get all the "omni" words that Western theologians love to talk about: *omnipresence, omnipotence, omniscience* etc. Philosophical, metaphysical ideas about God's being ultimately based on human conceptualization - and we attempt to compile them together to create this "God" apparatus from all our books, or scripture or Twitter feeds. From this conceptual invented "God," our minds go insane with theoretical speculation.

It's fine to talk about God's attributes, but only when grounding the conversation first and foremost in Jesus. Bringing this back to Jesus, we see that God is not the sum of a bunch of unseen, unknowable concepts. He is a Person. In fact, to really take a close look at Jesus, we see that God is three Persons in relation. Because the Jesus of scripture is eternally the Son. And He speaks to us of His Father, who is eternally His Father. And they are eternally related by this other intriguing character, Holy Spirit, Whom He likewise sends to us. Therefore, as Persons in relation, we see that God is a circle of other-giving Love.

### Wisdom From Above

Rather than a bottom-up approach of randomly trying to figure out God from the starting point of our limited human minds, what if we took a top-down approach and actually begin our discussion about God with the One who came from Heaven to reveal Himself! Only then, with Jesus as the starting point, can we confidently work our way back into who He has revealed His Father to be to us (to see Jesus *is* to see the Father: there's nothing about the Father - no mood swing or merciless wrath - that would not be fully displayed in Jesus). This is the starting point, and the only way we can know anything about God. *Jesus must be our hermeneutic: our way of interpreting God!* God is not defined by abstract theological principles. Jesus Himself is our only grammar for talking about God. And God is defined by the inner life of the Trinity, revealed by Jesus, which has now been freely poured out to His creation. Otherwise, if we are not looking at Jesus, we are wasting our time trying to figure out anything about God. As Dr. C. Baxter Kru-

Continued on page 18



# Meditations of the Mystics

Contemplation is the highest expression of man's intellectual and spiritual life. It is that life itself, fully awake, fully active, fully aware that it is alive. It is spiritual wonder. It is spontaneous awe at the sacredness of life, of being. It is a vivid realization of the fact that life and being in us proceed from an invisible, transcendent, and infinitely abundant source. Contemplation is above all, awareness of the reality of that source. It knows the Source, obscurely, inexplicably, but with a certitude that goes beyond reason and beyond simple faith. ... It is a more profound depth of faith, a knowledge too deep to be grasped in images, in words, or even in clear concepts ...  
-Thomas Merton

For God cannot be taken as the object of discussion or research. He is Himself whom you seek and you possess and it is in that that you know Him. You may speak to God, but of God you cannot speak; for in that God becomes a 'he', the God of whom you speak then becomes an idol; no longer being the God who created you, the God who is closer to you than you are to yourself.  
-Don Divo Barsotti

The fullness of joy is to behold God in all.  
-Julian of Norwich

So the spiritual life is about the liberation of God from our images of Him.  
-John O'Donohue

We seek to grow in our spiritual practice not because we have a goal to reach or a test to pass. God loves us unconditionally, right here and right now. We seek to grow, to become more disciplined, to lovingly give more of our time and attention to God, simply as a joyful way of responding to God's unconditional love. It's the ultimate win-win: We have already won, through Christ's passion, God's unconditional love. And God invites us through the Holy Spirit to grow in grace, so that we will "win" tomorrow by responding even more fully to God's love and God's invitation into silence.  
-Carl McColman

Contemplation is also the response to a call: a call from Him Who has no voice, and yet Who speaks in everything that is, and Who, most of all, speaks in the depths of our own being: for we ourselves are words

of His. But we are words that are meant to respond to Him, to answer to Him, to echo Him, and even in some way to contain Him and signify Him. Contemplation is this echo.  
-Thomas Merton

Infused contemplation is a divinely given, general, nonconceptual, loving awareness of God.  
-Thomas Dubay



Mystics must always be ready to abandon their high contemplation, their mystical silence, in order to give bread to the hungry.  
-Karl Rahner

Contemplation gives us delight in the sweetness which we have found.  
-Guigo II

It is not speaking that breaks our silence, but the anxiety to be heard.  
-Thomas Merton

Love of God and hatred of any person are absolutely incompatible with one another.  
-Maximus the Confessor

Gratitude (eucharista) is the vessel that contains grace (charis).  
-John Chryssavgis

All religion worthy of its name is soaked in a sense of Mystery.  
-Evelyn Underhill

Appearances notwithstanding, every person is immensely holy and deserves our love.  
-Pope Francis

The true contemplative is not the one who prepares his mind for a particular message that he wants or expects to hear, but who remains empty because he knows that he can never expect or anticipate the word that will transform his darkness into light. He does not demand light instead of darkness. He waits on the Word of God in silence. ...  
-Thomas Merton

Silence takes us beyond the limits of consciousness and into the heart and mind and will of God. Instead of our possessing God through silence, God through silence possesses us.  
-J. Brent Bill

Prayer is not so much something one does as something one is.  
-William Harmless, SJ

The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people.  
-G.K. Chesterton

Perfect prayer is achieved not with many words but with loving desire.  
-Catherine of Siena

The Christian of the future will be a mystic or will not exist at all.  
-Karl Rahner

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# Itinerary

## Find the Party Near You!

Schools, conferences & mission trips with John Crowder

### 2019

Redding Mystical School Redding, CA	February 1-3
The Big Drink NYC New York City, NY	February 15-17
The Uncompromised Gospel San Antonio, TX	April 26-27
Supernatural Joy Clinic Fort Wayne, IN	May 3-4
Sweden Mystical School Stockholm, Sweden	May 17-19
Estonia Gospel Party Tallinn, Estonia	May 20
Lithuania Gospel Party Vilnius, Lithuania	May 21
SoCal Mystical School Redlands, CA	June 7-9
Russia Gospel Collusion Mission Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Latvia	June 21-30
Telos USA Atlanta, GA	July 14-20
Brazil Mission Trip Open to Applicants	August 1-7
The Creed UK Bristol, England	August 23-25
Scotland Gentlemen's Retreat w/ Baxter Kruger & Godfrey Birtill	August 26-28
Poland Supernatural Grace Warsaw, Poland	September 21-22
Germany Mystical School Böblingen, Germany	September 27-29
Seattle Revival Center w/ Darren Stott & Godfrey Birtill	October 3-5
Telos Australia Sydney, Australia	December 1-7

Schedule subject to change. Sign up for events early at:

[www.thenewmystics.com](http://www.thenewmystics.com)



## THE NEW MYSTICS innersanctum

### Live Monthly Web Conference: Interact With John Crowder

Our interactive monthly Web seminar, *Inner Sanctum*, connects supernatural gospel grace drinkers all around the world on a regular basis. The live teaching and exclusive online chat features have enabled us to bring fresh revelation to viewers right to their homes, churches and house groups. Each month, we answer your burning questions and unpack the glorious gospel in a fresh, intoxicating atmosphere of impartation and glory! If you're diving into grace revelation and want to plug in deeper with life-changing messages, we invite you or your group to join as a member of our online community at [www.TheNewMystics.TV](http://www.TheNewMystics.TV)

**FRESH LIVE MATERIAL EACH MONTH  
DIRECT ACCESS TO JOHN CROWDER  
PRIVATE RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

### Upcoming Broadcast Schedule:

January 20  
February 10  
March 18\*  
April 14  
May 13\*  
June 17\*  
July 28

[www.TheNewMystics.TV](http://www.TheNewMystics.TV)

All seminars are held on Sunday nights at 9 p.m. Eastern/6 p.m. Pacific

\*Specially marked dates are Mondays at 9 p.m. Eastern/6 p.m. Pacific

### Online Community ... Intoxicating Fun!

Our ministry events are full of joy and impartation, but let's face it ... you can't make it to every conference in the world! Inner Sanctum is a way to plug you into a steady diet of gospel revelation right in your own home. Everywhere we travel, people are always asking us, "How can we stay connected with the Message?" The Inner Sanctum is a great tool as you grow in grace.

### Our Most Comprehensive Teaching Resource!

Since we've launched Inner Sanctum at TheNewMystics.TV, we have posted more than 100 hours of archived teachings – and as a member, you receive instant access to watch all of this footage, anytime! Your monthly membership contribution (\$19.95) also helps support our ministry endeavors all around the world! Gather your family and friends to enjoy each month's event together!

Each month, you can take part in our live, interactive seminars where John Crowder spends several hours engaging one-on-one with viewers right from his home study. Ask us your questions live for our real-time Q&A ... or just kick back and have a laugh as other members log in and join the fun. These are NOT recorded church meetings! Instead, John engages live-in-person with viewers, answering your questions and getting you activated in the gospel message. Join us as we savor the bliss of mystical Christianity and the supernatural realities of the new creation.

Finally, a fun way to feast on the finished work no matter where you live!

[WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.TV](http://WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.TV)



## SOT Missions Reach India, Nepal & Philippines

### *Mass Healing Campaigns and Ministry to Slums, Streets, Orphans*

Although 2018 was our sabbatical year, Sons of Thunder was still busy on the mission field, bringing teams to India, Nepal and making two trips to the Philippines where we reached the poorest of the poor, hosting several large miracle evangelism events. In the remote villages of Nepal and Kashmir, India we reached thousands with the Gospel message in three large open air Gospel campaigns, witnessing numerous divine healings - including deaf ears opening and the lame beginning to walk. We also held a teaching seminar for leaders. Our two trips to the Philippines were also a success as we ventured into the slums and the margins of society, bringing the love and life of Jesus. We held feeding programs for homeless families and street children, together with travel by boat to an obscure island location to minister in areas not accessible by plane. We ministered in churches, schools, a

prison and on the streets in three island locations, together with a large event in Manila that was extremely powerful, with bodies laid out everywhere by the tangible Glory of God.

Additionally, we officially launched the new Sons of Thunder children's home for orphans near Manila, after completing its construction. We also continue to support our existing orphanage near Mumbai, India which has seen several recent renovations.

If you missed any of these recent adventures, it is not too late to join one of our next upcoming trips currently open to applicants. We're headed to Brazil in August, or you can be part of our whirlwind Russia Gospel Collusion Mission to Russia, Ukraine, Latvia and Moldova in June. See story on page 14 and visit [www.thenewmystics.com/missions](http://www.thenewmystics.com/missions)



# Join us on the Mission Field to Russia or Brazil

Experience the supernatural and release the glorious Gospel in the nations as part of a Sons of Thunder mission trip! We have two trips to choose from in the summer of 2019. Our Russian Gospel Collusion Mission is the most extensive trip. This June mission is going to four countries: Ukraine, Latvia, Moldova and two stops in Mother Russia! Our former Soviet Bloc friends are some of the wildest Gospel drinkers in the world: there is always a heavy glory and we expect this one to blow up!

The second trip opportunity would take you to Brazil in August, where we will spend a week ministering with churches in Rio de Janeiro bringing a Holy Spirit celebration and releasing miracles. We will also equip pastors, do outreach in the slums and spend a few extra days with a church on the beaches of Cabo

Frio. Because of fewer flights, the Brazil trip is also most inexpensive trip we have ever hosted.

Both the Russia and Brazil trips will be life-changing experiences. These trips are great for getting activated in the anointing and power of the Gospel.

## Where Do I Begin?

If you have a heart for missions, we encourage you to lean into the faith of Christ - taking the first simple step by sending in your initial application and deposit! Registration is now open and the sign up deadlines are below (registration may close earlier than the deadlines if the trip fills up). Keep in mind you do not need your entire trip payment upfront. Only your

initial application and deposit are needed to secure your spot, so take that faith plunge and apply early. You will have more time to raise the remainder of your funds up until the final trip payment date. This is a "make your own way trip," which means we allow you to purchase your own plane ticket to lower costs. Many folks end up finding friends or family who donate air miles, making the trip more affordable.

Total cost for the trips listed below include all of your hotels, two meals per day, ground transportation (and for the Russia trip, the higher cost reflects the extra flights included between Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Latvia). Email us with any questions at [info@thenewmystics.com](mailto:info@thenewmystics.com) or visit the trip Web pages below.

## Russia Gospel Collusion Mission

Total Cost: \$2,800

Team Applications Due: FEBRUARY 15, 2019

Final Trip Payment Due: APRIL 24, 2019

Trip Dates: JUNE 21-30, 2019

Registration: [WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.COM/RUSSIA](http://WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.COM/RUSSIA)

## Brazil Mission

Total Cost: \$1,500

Team Applications Due: MARCH 1, 2019

Final Trip Payment Due: MAY 1, 2019

Trip Dates: AUGUST 1-7, 2019

Registration: [WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.COM/BRAZIL](http://WWW.THENEWMYSTICS.COM/BRAZIL)



**RUSSIA** GOSPEL COLLUSION MISSION  
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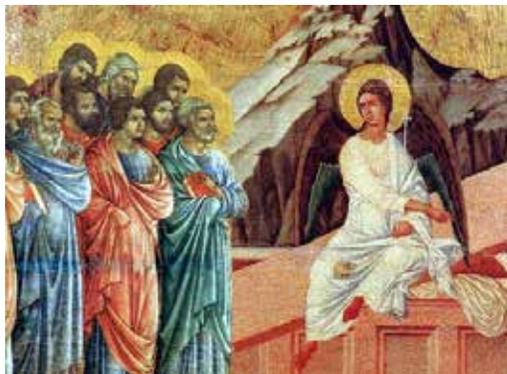
# The Veil has Been Torn

By Brett Endress

Separation is a lie, an illusion that has haunted mankind since sin deceived Adam. A lie that has sought to veil the face of God from mankind ever since. The veil of separation, to be clear, was never from God's side but always from man's side. Sin, or that which separates, created an illusion, albeit very real and subjectively experienced, that veiled mankind's face and prevented us from seeing God for Who He is. It is an illusion because we know it has never existed from God's side. Quite contrary to what Western Evangelicalism teaches, we see God's divine action moving towards Adam after his sin, not away from. God never hid himself from Adam; Adam hid himself away from God. Sin veiled the face of God to Adam so that he could no longer see Love Himself pursuing him. Adam envisioned an angry, wrathful, and vengeful God stalking him down in order to punish. The veil of separation resultant from sin is exactly what Christ came to remove in His incarnation, death and resurrection.

As far back as the people of Israel, we see a God who longs for union with His creation. Far from the veil of lies that convinced mankind that "gods" were to be appeased through sacrifice, obedience, laws and rituals; we find a God who bound Himself to a people in a covenant of love. This bond revealed the heart of God to mankind that was always His original intention. This intention, far from relating to them as a distant, aloof and uninterested deity, was expressed to them in very intimate terms. We see God wanting to join Himself to every area of their life: from finances and jobs to the grocery store and cooking, from raising children to protecting them from those who sought their harm (Deut. 28). He wanted them to unmistakably know His intention was to join together with them as the God of Union.

We see this intent, this union, fully climax in the Incarnation of Jesus. He, without veils of separation, joined Himself to mankind in the hypostatic union. The unbreakable union between God and man is found in the Person of Jesus. He is the "Place" where God and man eternally meet with unveiled faces. His face-to-face communion with the Father stripped away the masks that fallen humanity had made to separate themselves from God. Jesus tore



all the veils that separated mankind from God through the tearing of His own flesh. He entered into the deepest darkness and veils of estrangement, separation and abandonment that mankind would experience (entering into the darkest pit of separation itself, death, and tore the veil). The veil of the temple that was torn from top to bottom upon Jesus' last breath and His final declaration over mankind, "Father forgive them!", released mankind into unhindered communion in the Holy of Holies. This Holy of Holies is none other than Jesus Christ Himself inside of you. Holy Spirit, whom the Father poured out on all mankind at Pentecost, would sweep all mankind up into the ascension of Jesus where they can forever experience

the communion with Father, Son and Spirit that was always in His heart.

The illusion of separation that vexed the heart and mind of humanity under the old creation's control was destroyed. The mind of Christ, the mind of Peace, has now been given to us in the New Creation. God has reconciled mankind back to Himself through His blood and has now become our Peace (Eph. 2:14, Col. 1:20). The only thing that now separates mankind from God is the mind of separation that operates from a lie; the lie that separation still exists. The good news is that we have been given a mind that is now submitted to Holy Spirit and is life and peace to us (Rom. 8:7). The mind of peace (meaning "to join") is in complete solitude and tranquility because we can no longer see ourselves outside of union with Him. There is no circumstance we now face, no past experience, and no future situation that can be seen outside of union with Him.

The veil of separation has been removed. The illusion stemming from the lie has been dispelled. Jesus has forever separated us from the lie of separation with the truth our union with Him. The black hole of His death, died for all humanity, is how far His love has gone to separate us from separation. He has merged us together with Himself in an unbreakable union that will never let go. He can no more go back on this union with us than He could go back on His incarnation. We simply turn to the Lord, by the power of Holy Spirit, and the lies of separation are stripped away (2 Cor. 3:16). This turning is the metanoia, the radical changing of our minds, to think of ourselves as only He thinks of us: in union with Him. In the coming days, it will be increasingly difficult to see ourselves outside of union with Him.

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# TELOS: A WEEKLONG ECSTATIC GOSPEL INTENSIVE

*te·los* (n. Greek: *ultimate end, purpose, objective, aim*)

"It is finished ... " This simple but infinitely loaded statement spoken by Jesus on the cross spills from the Greek word *telos*. Christ in His saving act accomplished all things single-handedly. But even more, *Christ in His very Person is the Telos*: the consummation of all things. What does it really mean to discover our entire lives are summed up in Him and His finished work? What does it mean to reorient all our thoughts about God along these lines?

This year we are hosting a unique course. A jam-packed, concentrated deep dive to completely rework our understanding of the Gospel. Western Christianity is riddled with pagan mythology of separation from a distant, legal God whilst peddling religious formulas for solving the separation problem. We're left dull, dry, bored and powerless. We must re-evangelize the foundation of our beliefs from the ground up. The Gospel is the end of man's religious fears and striving. In 2019 we are offering an entire overdosing week of Gospel intoxication and religious detox on countless topics, renewing us to a happy, experiential revelation of union and the finished work of Christ. For seven days, John Crowder will unleash a full arsenal that is not merely doctrinal but a hands-on, impartational, supernatural smorgasbord of joyful communion in the Presence and life of the Spirit.

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Maybe you've attended a Mystical School, you've graduated Cana, or just new to the ministry altogether. This fun, yet challenging intensive has something for everyone. But it will only be held in two locations worldwide in 2019 with extremely limited registration. This is not just a localized regional meeting - this is a unique destination gathering planned specifically around major airport hubs in the USA and Australia. Plan to pull aside; fly in for an extended retreat with us. *Early registration is highly recommended.* The USA course is in Atlanta, Georgia July 14-20. The Australia course is in Sydney, December 1-7. Find out more and catch a video overview at:

[www.thenewmystics.com/telos](http://www.thenewmystics.com/telos)

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A biblical and historical grid for trances and Holy Spirit infilling, covering the topic of "drinking in the Spirit" from a lens of God's goodness, divine union and a life of joy unspeakable.

### Supernatural Phenomena

An extensive walk through supernatural church history, sharing testimonies and examples of bizarre miracles, signs and wonders that are often clinically removed from most seminaries.

### Faith & the New Birth

Most "born again" Christians have no grid for the new birth. Catch a deeper understanding of regeneration, the effortless gift of faith and its supernatural dynamics, apart from striving human willpower.

### Open Heavens

Open heavens is an important topic, though often wrongly portrayed as something we must attain through prayer, fasting or worship. Explore the realities of the glory realm available as a gift.

### Creative Miracles

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Unpacking the foundational truth of the New Creation in Christ and our spotless identity, empowering us to live completely free from the old nature in holiness. Blasting the myth of the sinful nature.

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Reworking "transactional" Christian disciplines in light of the New Covenant. The Fullness of God is not a thing to be attained through asceticism or effort, but a present reality we discover.

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Unwinding the lies of penal substitution and the concept of a bloodthirsty God. What if the cross is not about paying off the Father's wrath? What if the church has radically missed the Trinity?

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A walk through the early church creeds to reground our bearings. Returning to the grammar of the Trinity in our belief systems, and exposing the lies of Arianism that still pervade our thinking.

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We have unwittingly diminished either the divinity or humanity of Christ. Explore not just the act of salvation, but in His very "being" as the God-Man, Christ Himself is our union with God.

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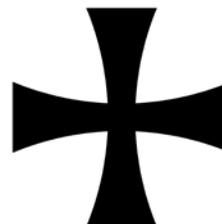
Earlybird registration opens in March for our online E-course kicking off in October 2019. Want to get brainwashed with new creation ways of thinking every week for two whole years of your life? Cana New Wine Seminary is oriented for more than the intellect, but also to experience your tangible ecstatic union with God. We call it a *drunken seminary!* Cana Online was created for folks who want to study from home at their own pace ... but not just to accumulate more information. Cana is specifically for those looking for tangible, supernatural *substance* and transformation in their way of perspective – not just relaying irrelevant concepts. Cana speaks both to the head and the heart. Drenched in the wine of divine love. Students have been so impacted by this life-changing school, that some have taken the entire course *multiple times* to keep drinking it all in.

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Cana is a course for anybody and everybody: not just preachers and academics. Whether you have a degree or no formal education at all, you will fit right in, and we guarantee the concepts will be revolutionary – even if you are a long-time pastor. Have you ever desired to plunge into theological study, but you lack patience to sift through dead, dry doctrine and lifeless intellectualism ... or maybe you want to grow in your understanding of grace, but just can't find the extra time to study? These were the very motivating factors for starting Cana. Our goal was to gather a heavy hitting roster of non-religious, grace-based instructors who have a profound grasp of the finished work of the cross – at an easy pace of study. No time-wasting fluff or tedious homework.

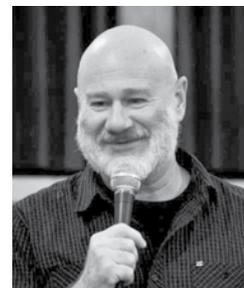
The goal of the course is not to memorize a bunch of rote, irrelevant doctrinal information. We want a *living* theology school that is experiential, mystical and on fire with the presence of God. Theology should not be boring. The pure, unmixed message of grace intoxicates us with divine love and produces real, radical change and fruitfulness in our daily lives. But our belief systems are drastically important to how we perceive God, ourselves and how we encounter life around us! We need some good news – theological Prozac!

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ger points out, "We are playing checkers, and He is playing three-dimensional chess." A discussion about God without looking at Jesus is futile. This is again pagan Greek sophistry – the human philosophy about which Paul warns us so clearly, which seeks to divert us away from the Gospel (Jesus Christ Himself is the true Wisdom from above) and brings us back to the darkness of our own minds.

As Father, Son and Holy Spirit relate to one another in love, this is what shapes who God is. This is a massive distinction between viewing God from a composite of metaphysical attributes we collect from scripture (ideas about sovereignty, wisdom, truth, etc.) versus knowing Him in His personhood - in relationality. Otherwise, consolidating God into the sum of all these supposed absolute decrees and just trying to throw scripture arbitrarily behind it all is a waste of time. You will never know God that way. In fact, centuries of this type of misuse of theology is why most average believers today despise the idea of theology altogether.

**An Undivided Trinity**

The reality of God as a Trinity flies in the face of dualistic separation. Because Trinity is about union, togetherness and love (the *oneness* grounded in love is infinitely more powerful, rich and robust than the supposed *oneness* of a single monad God playing solitaire by himself, creating the world just to masturbate his own ego). The Trinity screams out that the Gospel is about adoption, not a legalistic payoff in which the Trinity falls apart on the cross (with the Father forsaking His Son on the tree in order to meet the demands of His otherly attribute of "holiness"). It wasn't the Father's wrath that put Jesus on the cross; it was our wrath. The all-pervading Evangelical idea that the Father poured His wrath on Jesus on the cross is not the message of the early church. It is the invention of moderns. And it is pagan. Demonic. Anti-Trinitarian. It is worth our time here to explore this (as I have already done so thoroughly in my book *Cosmos Reborn*, but we cannot talk about union with God apart from the cohesive, unbroken unity between the Father and Son on the cross).

Did Jesus die to pay for your sins? Yes and no. Depends on what you mean by "pay." If you think He was legally paying off a debt to an angry Father so that He could love you then the answer is "no." You have clearly confused "God" with satan. If you mean that in fully dying your death, absorbing your darkness into His uncreated light and curing your dilapidated condition by fully embracing it in love, then absolutely - a resounding "yes!"

On the cross, Jesus was not changing God. God does not need changing. On the cross, Jesus was changing you!

If Jesus is the Father's whipping boy, then it absolutely puts Him down the ladder of a Trinitarian hierarchy that doesn't exist. The popular Evangelical doctrine called "penal substitutionary atonement" (PSA) is the idea of Jesus paying off the Father's wrath, and it is pagan in origin. "Good news! God hates you because of your sin, but He killed His own kid, so He's now allowed to love you ... Only if you pray this prayer of course!" PSA is Greek dualism and anti-Trinitarian to the extreme. I am not denying the reality of God's wrath (I probably think it's hotter than many of you readers do). But the real issue is to *rightly define* that wrath (the motive, purpose and object of His wrath).

**... we cannot talk about union with God apart from the cohesive, unbroken unity between the Father and Son on the cross.**

**Wrath Against or For Us?**

Wrath is toward sin itself (in Romans 1:18, Paul says it is against "all ungodliness"). His wrath is not toward "us." His wrath is against sin *because* of the very fact that sin destroys us — it hurts His children! His wrath is an extension of His love for us, not a schizophrenic dark side of His personality, wherein He loves on some days and hates on other days. God does not just love as an action. God is Love. All He is capable of is love, because He does not act contrary to Himself. If we choose to own the self-destruction of our own darkness, refusing to let it go, He will continue to love us. And the fire of His love will be perceived as a hot and unremitting eternal hell ... but the reality of this fire is still that it is a fire of love wrongly received. The eternal forgiveness is, to us, experienced backwardly as coals of fire on our heads if we refuse to let go of our guilt and shame and accept his already given gift of acceptance. The Orthodox Church of the East has always understood hell in this proper light of God's true character in Jesus. They were not as influenced by Platonic paganism like Augustine and other early church teachers in the West.

God does not hate anybody. He loves too ferociously for some people's taste. So no, Jesus wasn't assuaging His Father's anger toward man. The orthodox view of God's wrath (the one grounded in the reality that God as an all-consuming fire of love) actually

precedes modern ideas of penal substitution by one and a half millennia. As C.S. Lewis said, Heaven and hell are both lit up by the fire of His love. And who can dwell with a consuming fire?

This also sorts out our understanding of our own present relation to sin. We do not avoid sin because it makes God angry. We avoid sin because it is damaging and destructive! It is contrary to who we are by nature and design.

But on the cross, the early church never believed the ridiculous notion that Jesus was saving us from God. On the cross, He was destroying the sinfulness and decay that has corrupted mankind. God's wrath has nothing to do with His personal ego or narcissism. Contrary to separation thinking, even His wrath is positively for us.

Again, it is one thing to think we are still separate from Jesus. It is another level of pagan heresy to suggest there is a breach in the union between Jesus and His Father. This denies not only the most important document of the church's ancient faith - the Nicene Creed - but it denies the most important word in that Creed! That word is *homousian*, meaning "one substance." Jesus is *homousian to Patri ... one substance with the Father*. He is one being, one essence with the Father. There is no breach. The Lord our God is one.

**Evangelical Arianism**

The biggest, most widespread heresy ever to sweep the early church - bigger than any other - was the heresy of Arianism in the third and fourth century. While I won't dive deeply into the nuances of it, Arianism (named after a certain Bishop Arius) denied that Jesus was God. It rejected the Trinity. Sure, Arians would say Jesus was "Savior" and would even ironically worship Him - but they would not admit His full divinity. If one were to draw a strict line between God and the rest of creation, Jesus would clearly be on the "created" side of that line for the Arians. Arius even said there was a time when Jesus didn't exist. Maybe He was the highest being of all creation, but for Arius, Jesus was still not the eternal God Himself. There was a point in history when the church had so succumbed to the Arian lie, that there were presumably more Arians than there were Christians. As St. Jerome woefully observed, "The whole world groaned, and was astonished to find itself Arian."

The whole point of the Nicene Creed, and most specifically the *homousian*, was to boldly strike against the heresy of Arianism and declare that yes, Jesus

Christ is indeed very God of very God, Light of Light, from before all worlds ... of the very same substance as the Father. Jesus Christ is the Lord God Almighty. To see Jesus is to see all that God is.

Arianism, as an extension of this same Greek pagan dualism we are addressing. Arianism was dead set on maintaining a separation between God and the created order. God could not become sullied human flesh in the incarnation! So Arianism had to dualistically reject the full divinity of Jesus. God and man cannot be fully united! Such a Gospel would be too scandalous to the Greek mind! But rest assured, such a big worldwide heresy does not just disappear from the scene. Over time and centuries, it just morphs – reshaping itself into a different form. ... *Hello modern Evangelicalism.*

To purport a split in the Trinity (the Father forsaking Jesus on the cross) denies the constant theme of eternal union between them we see so clearly throughout the Books of John, Colossians and furthermore all of the New Testament. Even within the misunderstood Psalm 22 that Jesus is quoting on the cross (“Why have you forsaken Me?”), this line should not be divorced from verse 24 of that same passage, “For He has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one; **He has not hidden His face from Him** but has listened to His cry for help.” On the cross, the Father did not forsake His Son – He never hid His face from Jesus. God does not abandon anyone. Furthermore, “God was in Christ, reconciling the cosmos to Himself” (2 Cor. 5:19). The Father did not turn a blind eye to Jesus. No, Jesus was entering into our own human blindness to the love of God, in order that our eyes may be opened to see. This wrong-headed notion that Jesus was paying off a deity who was perhaps a little more holy, a little more superior - a little more legalistic, unknowable or divine than Himself ... well this my friends, drops us right back into the heart of Arian paganism like never before. The Evangelical world today is unwittingly denying glory to Jesus Christ. Athanasius, the great church father and defender of the Trinity against the Arians, chided them with a question we must pose to Evangelicals today: if you think Jesus was just a creature, why are you even worshipping Him?

### Jesus and His Father

I don't think my criticism is uncharitable or too drastic in comparing modern Evangelicals to Arians. This is not just a nuance. It is actually the crux of a whole way of thinking that denies the Christian Gospel and projects our fallen mindsets onto the nature of God. A vengeful distant deity in the sky, who will let you

come into His club ... IF ... and only if, you get yourself right with Jesus. Trust me when I say, Jesus is not a bridge you cross over to God. In Jesus, God has already crossed over into you, setting you right with Himself. Jesus is the declaration that God was always here, and He was always pleased with you, even in the darkness of your utter psychotic delusion.

In all these Evangelical camps who adhere to PSA, of the Father destroying His Son on the cross, is it no wonder that in these days many also promote an even further Arian, antichrist notion that the Trinity literally functions in a *hierarchy* - with Jesus' role being just a little bit beneath the Father?

Where is the Creed? Where is the homoousian? I am not talking about some fringe cults either. I am talking about mainstream Evangelical leaders promoting ridiculous pagan ideas in our day. Of course, they know better than to outright claim Jesus is of a lesser “substance” than the Father. But many worldwide evangelical leaders actually claim that in His *role* or *function*,

**It is one thing to think we are still separate from Jesus. It is another level of pagan heresy to suggest there is a breach in the union between Jesus and His Father.**

Jesus will always be less than the Father (in theological nerd talk, this concept is called EFS: *Eternal Functional Subordination*). While no Evangelical teacher in his right mind would outright deny that Jesus is fully God, nevertheless by painting Him in a lesser role or function as always subservient under the Father's hierarchy, they end up doing this very thing. Of course, speaking in the capacity of His humanity alone, Jesus indeed said the Father was greater than Himself. But in no way was Jesus speaking of His own eternal being. The critical danger in handing the Son a lesser “position” for all eternity is the risk that the lessening of Jesus' *function* also lessens the *Person* of Jesus Himself. Millard Erickson explains, “The problem is this. ... Authority is part of the Father's essence, and subordination is part of the Son's essence, and each attribute is not part of the essence of the other person. That means that the essence of the Son is different from the essence of the Father. ... That is equivalent to saying that they are not homoousios (the same essence) with one another.”

Christian writer Bobby Grow puts it this way, “This reeks with the notion that there is a rupture between the Father and the Son (and thus by extrapolation, the Holy Spirit) such that the Son's being is distinct from the Father's; just at the point that it's conceivable that

the Son could in any way be subordinate to the Father in the eternal reality. What we have then, if this is the case is a tri-theism; viz. the idea that there are three distinct centers of consciousness within the Godhead. But as orthodox Christians we know this is nothing more than a load of piping hot rubbish.”

In reality, the eternal union of Father, Son and Spirit are three Persons in one unconfused Being. One mind, will and heart. This is often known as the simplicity of God. Let's not over-complicate Him by drawing divisions in His being.

### In Summary

In summary, the Gospel is sourced in these two most eternally important truths: *God's union with mankind and God's union within Himself in His own Triune being*. This is why the early church fathers - above any other side doctrines or other secondary theological concerns - found it most important to agree on two vital issues: Christology and the Trinity. Christology concerns the being of Jesus Christ existing as fully God and fully man in the same person: in His incarnation (the union of His humanity and divinity is called the *hypostatic union*) He embodies *all of mankind's* union with God. Furthermore, an understanding of the Trinity points us to the full divinity of Jesus and the Spirit, together with the Father as the exact same substance or essence (all three are of the exact same “God stuff” - all three existing as the one undivided God). There is no “other God” hiding behind Jesus' back: no legalistic, moody, temperamental side of the Godhead which doesn't look like Jesus.

And these two truths are interdependent upon one another. Rightly understanding “who is Jesus” and “who is the Trinity” is the core foundation of the Gospel and speaks directly to every other issue, including salvation, adoption, the kingdom, the church, God's love and every other way of thinking and talking about God. Christology and the Trinity are the only true grammar that exist for talking about God. This is why the early fathers emphasized these two issues above all else in their creeds (almost to the exclusion of every other issue!). If we understand the person of God correctly (as incarnate Jesus and an other-giving Trinity of love), then everything else falls into place. It is about knowing Jesus (He binds together God and mankind) and knowing the Trinity (to see Jesus is to see the perfect love of the Father and to know the nature and personality of the Spirit). It is here only that we cease driving religious divides between ourselves and God, as we likewise stop driving a false wedge of separation between God within His own Triune self.

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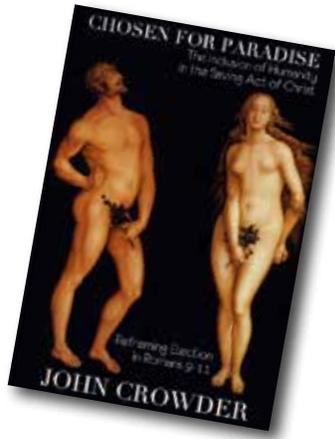


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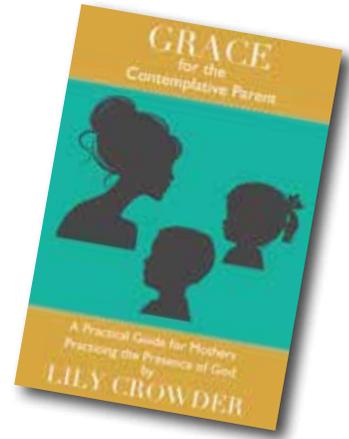


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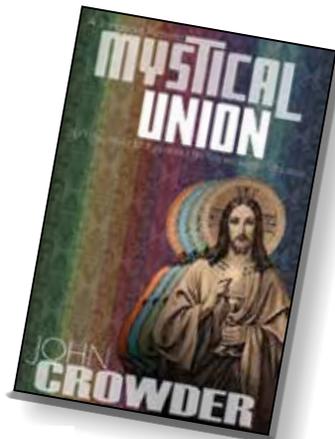
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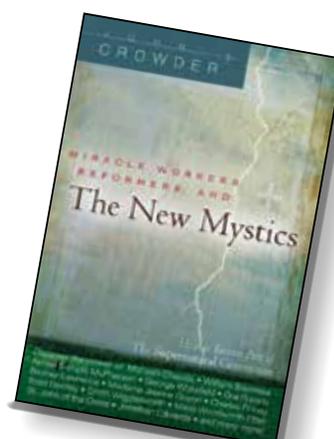
## Mystical Union

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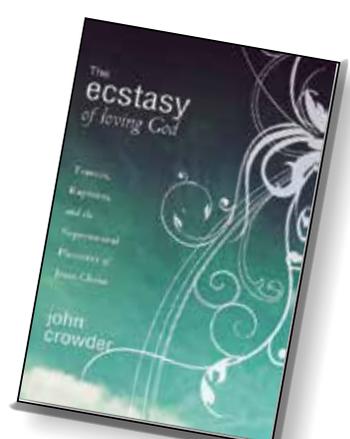
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God has destined you to live in the joyful radiance of Himself, just as Adam was called to live in the realm of Eden. Ecstasy, or "extasis," is the Greek term for trance, and is linked with a pleasurable, God-given state of out-of-body experience recorded throughout the New Testament and the church age. In this book, John takes us on a journey from Old and New Testament ecstatic prophets to the future ecstasies who will usher in a massive wave of harvest Glory to the streets in these last days.

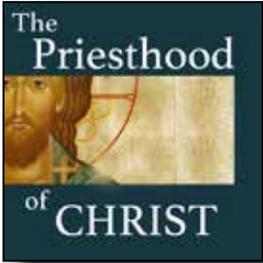
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## The Priesthood of Christ

The Relevance and Perfecting of the Office

While priesthood seems an irrelevant topic in today's culture of Instagram, Netflix and backyard barbecues, all of humanity longs inwardly for the role of a priest - one who will atone for their sense of guilt and offer to God the perfect worship they can never muster up. How was Christ "perfected" as our High Priest?



## Miracle Healing Session

Healing Release & Impartation

John often says he has never done a whole teaching solely on healing ... He just teaches on the gospel and does healings. In this session devoted completely to healing miracles and impartation, John brings a finished work perspective and grace focus to the subject of bodily miracles. Get free from striving to "work up" faith for healing!



## Killing the Sacred Cow

A Beginner's Guide to Why we are so Offensive

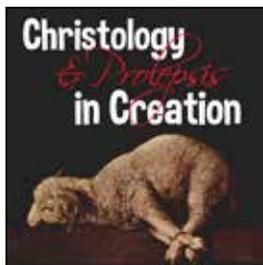
John Crowder gives an overview of many major concepts the Lord has downloaded to him over the years. He walks through a journey of various topics: from a focus on the supernatural, the wine of God's presence, our union with God, the inclusion of humanity in the gospel, freedom from dualisms and much more. A good scandalous snapshot of our experiential and theological journey.



## Communion

Participating in Sacramental Union

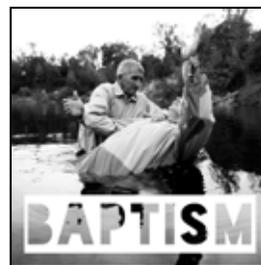
In this teaching John Crowder covers the topic of communion. Is it a mere symbol or a mystical sacrament? How do we view communion from a perspective of the finished work of the cross? John also explores the rich history of eucharistic miracles and ancient communion celebrations that led to modern revivalism.



## Christology & Prolepsis

The Incarnation as an Eternal Reality

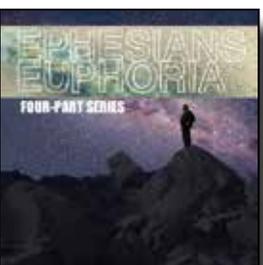
"Prolepsis" is the foreshadowing, or anticipation of the coming Christ that always existed in a hidden way throughout the course of human history. Jesus did not merely come onto the scene 2,000 years ago. In the beginning was the Word and all things were created through Him. In this teaching, John explores Christ as eternal sum of all things.



## Baptism

Understanding Water & Spirit Baptism

In this teaching John covers the role of water baptism from a finished work perspective. Not a superstitious act required to "purchase" salvation, nor a symbol pointing to your own "personal faith," baptism is a sacrament that points to your death with Christ before you ever even realized it! John also covers "spirit baptism." Do you get Holy Spirit in a separate act from your conversion?



## Ephesians Euphoria

Four-part Series on the Cosmic Incarnation

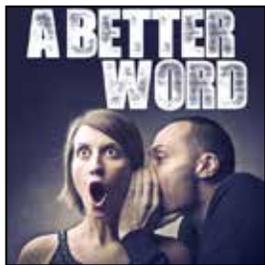
Catch the grace of the gospel and the cosmic scheme of the incarnation in this four-part series as John Crowder walks through the entire book of Ephesians, dispelling our dualistic notions of separation from God and encouraging a practical life lived out to the glory of God in the beauty of holiness.



## Abiding in the Wine Vine

Sap Suckling & Fruit Bearing

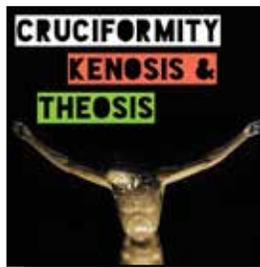
"Abiding" is a passive work - not an active one. We exist in Christ, and He bears fruit through us. In this teaching, John Crowder expands on the fruit of the Spirit that is produced through our effortless union with Christ. This is a study and meditation on love, joy, patience, peace, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control from Galatians 5.



### A Better Word

The Bible: Infallible, Irrelevant or Holding a Secret?

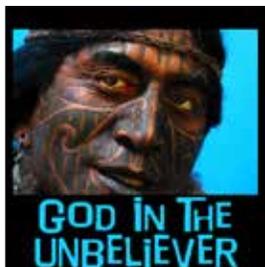
In this teaching John touches on the topic of the inspiration of scripture, offering a different perspective on the controversial topic. What do we do with tough passages like the flood, genocide and other scriptures that appear to paint God as a moral monster? There is a Word within the Word - an underlying "Yes!" hidden within the "No!"



### Cruciformity

The Divine Nature of Self-Giving Love

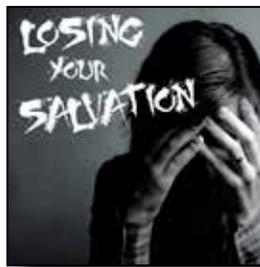
Christ did not simply die for us as an action. But the crucifixion speaks of His nature as the cruciform God. It is "because" He is God that Christ emptied Himself. God's nature is other-giving love. As we explore what it means to have the divine nature - to embrace "theosis" or being God-like - the end result is always self-emptying love.



### God in the Unbeliever

Seeing Christ Hidden in Humanity

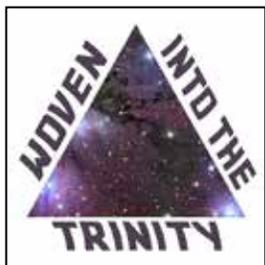
Modern evangelicalism has conditioned us with an insider-outsider mentality. Jesus supposedly "jumps inside" a person when they make their salvation "decision." But is this the message of the apostle Paul? If all of humanity is included in the Last Adam, as Paul clearly articulates, how does that play into our understanding of our fellow man and the dynamics of being "in Christ?"



### Losing Your Salvation

Eliminating Fear of Divine Abandonment

A number of passages in scripture are mishandled in a way to instill the fear of losing our salvation. But salvation was never based on our performance or even our ability to drum up faith on our own. In this teaching, John Crowder tackles some tough passages offering a radical grace perspective.



### Woven into the Trinity

Grafted Into the Incarnation

Why is a revelation of the Trinity core to our understanding of the nature of God? Unlike the unitarian concept of God that is directly based on our human performance to please him, instead we have been grafted into Jesus' relationship with the Father in the Spirit. Our relationship with God is fully mediated through the incarnate Son - our salvation rests completely on His faithfulness, His vicarious repentance on our behalf and His baptism into our death. God is family. He is other-giving love.



### John Crowder's Joy Clinic

Three-Part Extended Teaching Set

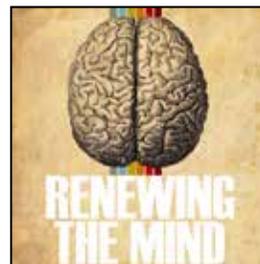
Do you suffer from Religion, Burnout, Boredom, Depression, Unbelief or Legalism? Looking for a quick, easy remedy that seems too good to be true? This is just what the doctor ordered! In this three-part series John lays out a multi-dimensional gospel feast. Covering new creation realities and the joy of the glorious gospel, he addresses the identity of the believer and dispels the theological myth of an angry, schizophrenic God.



### Contemplating the Mystery

The Divine Dance of Theology and Contemplation

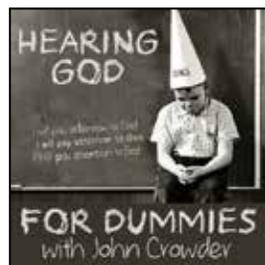
Contemplation is the practice of His presence. Christ is the object of our contemplation. Our intersection between the seen and the unseen, the finite and the infinite. Contemplation - as a mode of enjoyment - is never an end in itself. It does not exist if it is detached from the Person who is contemplated or enjoyed. And theology is not to become mere intellectualism. When Christ is given His place, the scriptures find their place.



### Renewing the Mind

Gospel Joy Explosions to the Brain

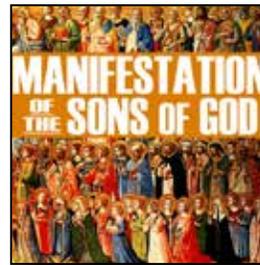
The renewal of the mind is a happy journey of having our thought life infused with the joy of our salvation and saturated with the revelation of our true identity in Christ. Tired of stupid thinking that produces strife and tension? As we stay plugged into the word of truth, we "know the truth" and the truth sets us free.



### Hearing God for Dummies

New Covenant Prophetic Insights

Most charismatics think they know everything about the prophetic. But much of the prophetic movement has been derailed in old covenant style future-telling. A new covenant people are emerging who can point backward to the cross, releasing faith for what's already been given to us. Get practical tips on hearing God!



### Manifested Sons of God

Effortlessly Shine in the Supernatural Life

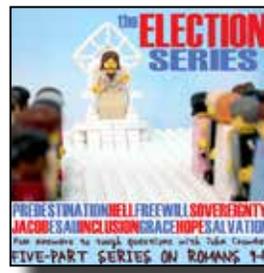
All of creation awaits the "revealing" of your sonship. You were created for the supernatural life. Manifesting our divine identity is as effortless as realizing who we really are - adopted heirs entrusted with authority in heaven and earth. John explores our miraculous inheritance in Romans 8 from a finished work perspective.



### Raising Family in Grace

The Gospel at Home with John & Lily

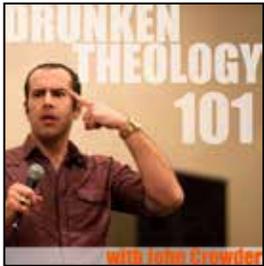
John and Lily Crowder explore the topic of marriage and family life in the grace and glory of God. The gospel radically liberates parents from the stress and fear of religious performance, infusing children with identity and life. This extended teaching features Q&A and practical tips on practicing the presence at home.



### The Election Series

Seeing Romans 9-11 Through a New Lens

Romans 9-11 contains some of the most difficult and misunderstood concepts ... In this 5-part series, John Crowder shoots religious cows on every side of the debate - cheering up your perspective of God, hell and predestination. Going beyond the Calvinist-Arminian-Universalist debate John presents a strong hope in Christ - the Vicarious Man, who is both Elector and Elected. This is one of our most stretching teaching sets.



### Drunken Theology 101

Extended Teaching on the Cross

Get new creation foundations for your bliss as John expands on the revelation of the gospel in this two-hour teaching session from Australia. Tap into the mysticism of St. Paul, the glorious drink of divine union and the beautiful gift of perfection. This is a powerful summation of finished works theology that will cheer you up, infuse you with joy and transform your understanding of Christianity.



### Divine Creativity

And the Graven Image of the Law

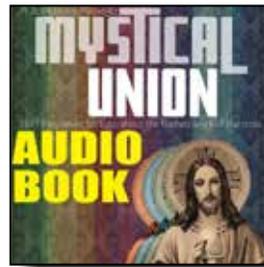
Ever notice that religious folk are usually not creative? Longing for the Spirit of Creativity - the Spirit Himself - to manifest more through your life? Often, what Christian artists deem to be "creative" is really just a dead, copycat repetition of types and shadows. But now, since you are restored to the true image of God in Christ, you can manifest a fresh expression of the divine.



### Drink Grace Straight

Revelations of the Glory

The knowledge of the Glory of God is filling the earth in this hour. Ever wonder what the "knowledge of the Glory" actually is? It is the pure revelation of the gospel. Grace has to be drunk straight. Any mixture of law added to your pure drink of grace, and it ceases to be true grace. Drink deep of the gospel revelation in this teaching!



### Mystical Union Audiobook

Read by John Crowder

In this audiobook recording, listen as John Crowder reads his classic, *Mystical Union*. The gospel is a mystical message, based on an instant and effortless union with God achieved at Christ's cross. There is a delicious feast prepared for the believer. This book threatens to turn your Christianity upside down. Makes a great easy listening audio companion to the hardback book.



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