

Introduction

The Realization of the Triune God *The Consummated and Compounded Spirit*

In this issue of *Affirmation & Critique*, the last of this series on the Triune God, we continue with our focus on the realization of the Triune God, presenting two additional aspects of the Spirit which make the application of the Triune God in our daily experience both possible and meaningful. These aspects include the Spirit's consummation in the Son's glorification and the Spirit's compounding in the Son's processes.

Countless pages have been written on the Triune God throughout the history of the church, but the Triune God remains primarily objective, even abstract, to most Christians. However, the truth of the Triune God in the Scriptures is not presented merely for mental comprehension and assent; it is presented for the sake of opening eyes to the divine and mystical realities that are available to those who believe in Christ. We should know the Triune God in more than an objective way; we should know Him subjectively as well. Our knowing of the Triune God is our experiencing of the Triune God, and our experience of the Triune God is based on our union with the Triune God, which progressively develops as we partake of the divine nature. Ultimately, our union with the Triune God is realized in the union of the Spirit with our spirit.

As our last issue pointed out, this Spirit is nothing less than the pneumatized Christ, the last Adam who became the life-giving Spirit for the purpose of imparting the life of God to us. This Spirit is also the sevenfold intensified Spirit for our experience in overcoming the degradation of the church. Even further and for the sake of our experience, this Spirit is the consummation of the Triune God, being the glorification of the Triune God in the firstborn Son and in His

many brothers. This is the Spirit who was not yet in John 7:39 because Jesus was not yet glorified. With His glorification in resurrection, Christ in His humanity was fully designated the Son of God, and He was fully made available as the Spirit, consummating the Triune God's economic procession to humankind in general and into all those who believe in particular.

In reaching us, however, the Triune God is also realized as the compounded Spirit, that is, the Spirit who possesses all the wonderful elements of the Triune God's process, including the incarnation, human living, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. By virtue of this compounding,

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there is a communication and impartation to us of all that Christ has obtained and attained. Our experience of the Triune God may be mystical, but it is not ethereal. It is the death of Christ being effective in every situation we encounter, dealing with all of the negative elements both within and without. It is the resurrection of Christ overcoming and triumphing over all the elements of sin, sins, and death both within and without. It is the human virtues of Christ being expressed as Christ lives

out His life from within, and it is the blossoming of the incarnation of God in us as the divine life grows and matures through the transformation of our inward parts. These are the experiences that bring meaning to our lives, bearing as they do an eternal weight of glory.

In this age of the consummated and compounded Spirit, the Spirit as the Son with the Father is the realization of the Triune God. The coexisting and coinhering Triune God has been wonderfully and inseparably joined to us—the Spirit of God is the Spirit of Christ, and the Spirit of Christ is just Christ—through His marvelous economy. **AC**