

Lesson 67: God the Son, Part 7, 8

Memory Verse: But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. Galatians 4:4

VII. Christ, the Eternal God, Taking Human Nature is an Unfathomable Mystery

20. The great mystery is found in **John 3:16**: "For God so _____ the world, that he _____ his only begotten _____, that whosoever _____ in him should not _____, but have _____ life."

Note: "The heart of God yearns over His earthly children with a **love stronger than death**. In giving up His Son, He has poured out to us all heaven in one gift." FLB 45.2

"Through that gift there comes to us day by day **the unfailling flow of Jehovah's goodness**. Every flower, with its delicate tints and sweet fragrance, is given for our enjoyment **through that one Gift**. The sun and moon were made by **Him**; there is not a star that beautifies the heavens which **He** did not make. There is not an article of food upon our tables that **He** has not provided for our sustenance. **The superscription of Christ is upon it all**. Everything is supplied to man **through the one unspeakable Gift**, the only-begotten Son of God. He was nailed to the cross that all these bounties might flow to God's workmanship." FLB 45.3

"**Christ bowed down in unparalleled humility**, that in His exaltation to the throne of God, **He might also exalt those who believe in Him**, to a seat with Him upon His throne." FLB 45.5

21. In **John 10:30** Jesus declared: "I and my _____ are _____."

Hebrews 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his _____, and the express _____ of his person, and _____ all things by the _____ of his _____, when he had by _____ purged our _____, sat down on the _____ hand of the _____ on high."

Colossians 2:9,10 "For in _____ dwelleth all the _____ of the _____ bodily. And ye are _____ in him, which is the _____ of all principality and power."

"Ye are complete in Him". This union of Christ and humanity is a **mystery** we cannot fathom but it is to be declared to all people everywhere: **Colossians 1:25-28**

"Whereof I am made a _____, according to the dispensation of _____ which is given to me for you, to fulfil the _____ of God; Even the _____ which hath been _____ from ages and from generations, but _____ is made _____ to his saints: To whom God would make _____ what is the _____ of the glory of this _____ among the Gentiles; **which is** _____, the _____ of glory: Whom we _____, warning every man, and _____ every man in all _____; that we may _____ every man _____ Christ Jesus."

"**In Christ is gathered all the glory of the Father**. In Him is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. He is the brightness of the Father's glory, and the express image of His person. **The glory of the attributes of God are expressed in His character**. The gospel is glorious because it is made up of His righteousness. It is Christ unfolded, and Christ is the gospel embodied. Every page of the New Testament Scriptures shines with His light. Every text is a diamond, touched and irradiated by the divine rays." 7BC 907.3

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"We are not to praise the gospel, but praise Christ. We are not to worship the gospel, but the Lord of gospel. **Christ is a perfect representation of God on the one hand, and a perfect specimen of sinless humanity on the other hand.** Thus He has combined divinity and humanity." 7BC 907.4

"Jesus said, 'I and my Father are one.' **He speaks of Himself as well as the Father when He speaks of omnipotent power, and claims for Himself perfect righteousness.** In Christ dwelt the fulness of the Godhead bodily. This is why, although tempted in all points like as we are, He stood before the world untainted by the corruptions that surrounded Him. **We also are to become partakers of that fulness,** and **only** in this way shall we be **enabled to overcome** as Christ overcame." BEcho, November 1, 1892 par. 8

John 1:14 tells us: "The _____ was made _____, and dwelt _____ us, (and we _____ His glory, the _____ as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of _____ and _____."

And **John 1:12** tells us that "as many as _____ Him, to them gave he _____ to become the _____ of God, even to them that _____ on His name."

"When God gave Jesus to our world, He included all heaven in that one gift. **He did not leave us to retain our defects and deformities of character,** or to serve Him as best we could in the corruption of our sinful nature. He has **made provision that we may be complete in His Son,** not having our own righteousness, but the righteousness of Christ. In Christ every storehouse of knowledge and of grace is at our command; for in Him dwells 'all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.'" HM, March 1, 1898 par. 1

22. Paul tells us in **1 Timothy 3:16**: "And without controversy _____ is the _____ of _____: God was _____ in the _____, justified in the _____, seen of _____, preached unto the _____, believed on in the _____, received up into _____."

Note: "In contemplating the incarnation of Christ in humanity, we stand baffled before an **unfathomable mystery, that the human mind can not comprehend.** The more we reflect upon it, the more **amazing** does it appear. How **wide** is the **contrast** between the divinity of Christ and the helpless infant in Bethlehem's manger! How can we span the **distance** between the mighty God and a helpless child? And yet the Creator of worlds, he in whom was the fulness of the Godhead bodily, was manifest in the helpless babe in the manger. **Far higher than any of the angels, equal with the Father in dignity and glory, and yet wearing the garb of humanity!** Divinity and humanity were **mysteriously combined,** and man and God became one. **It is in this union that we find the hope of our fallen race.** Looking upon Christ in humanity, we look upon God, and see in him the brightness of his glory, the express image of his person." ST, July 30, 1896 par. 3

23. Only He who knows the Father could reveal Him: Matthew 11:27

"All things are delivered unto me of my _____: and no man _____ the Son, but the _____; neither _____ any man the _____, save the _____, and he to whomsoever the Son will _____ him."

Note: "But who that is not infinite can understand the infinite? Christ declares, 'No man knoweth the Father but the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son shall reveal him.' It is recorded of Epictetus that when his hearers said to him, 'You have uttered many excellent things of God; but we cannot as yet understand what he is,' he truly and nobly replied, 'Were I able fully to set forth God, I should either be a god myself, or God himself would cease to be what he is.' **The greatness of God cannot be measured or comprehended. And that doctrine that denies the absolute Godhead of Jesus Christ, denies also the Godhead of the Father; for no man**

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knoweth the Son but the Father." ST, June 27, 1895 par. 3

"**The mightiest created intelligence cannot grasp divinity.** The principalities and powers of heaven are overwhelmed with the vastness of the theme of Christ's character and **the mystery of the union of divinity and humanity.** The most eloquent notes of cherubim and seraphim fail to describe him; but the **angels** of God **delight** to be in his presence. They **rejoice** in beholding his face, and **hasten to obey** his command, to **fulfill their commission of love** to those for whom Christ died." ST, June 27, 1895 par. 4

24. He who is the Son of God came and took upon Himself humanity and gave His life to save us from our sins. **Ephesians 1:6-9** "To the praise of the glory of his _____, wherein he hath made us accepted in the _____. In whom we have _____ through his _____, the _____ of sins, according to the riches of his _____; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all _____ and prudence; Having made _____ unto us the _____ of his _____, according to his _____ pleasure which he hath _____ in himself."

Note: "The Lord Jesus, who is the image of the invisible God, gave His own life to save perishing man, and, oh, what light, what power, He brings with Him! In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead, bodily. **What a mystery of mysteries!** It is difficult for the reason to grasp the majesty of Christ, the mystery of redemption. The shameful cross has been upraised, the nails have been driven through His hands and feet, the cruel spear has pierced to His heart, and the redemption price has been paid for the human race. The spotless Lamb of God bore our sins in His own body upon the tree; He carried our sorrows." 1SM 402.

"When Christ bowed His head and died, **He bore the pillars of Satan's kingdom with Him to the earth.** He vanquished Satan in the same nature over which in Eden Satan obtained the victory. The enemy was overcome by Christ in His **human** nature. The power of the Saviour's Godhead was hidden. **He overcame in human nature, relying upon God for power. This is the privilege of all.** In proportion to our faith will be our victory."

YI, April 25, 1901 par. 11

25. Even the angels desire to understand this mystery: **1 Peter 1:10-12**

"Of which _____ the _____ have enquired and _____ diligently, who prophesied of the _____ that should come unto you: Searching _____, or what manner of _____ the Spirit of Christ which was in them did _____, when it testified _____ the _____ of _____, and the _____ that should follow. Unto whom it was _____, that not unto themselves, but unto _____ they did minister the things, which are _____ reported unto you by them that have preached the _____ unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the _____ desire to _____ into."

Note: "In every possible way Satan sought to prevent Jesus from developing
a perfect childhood,
a faultless manhood,
a holy ministry,
and an unblemished sacrifice.

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But he was defeated.

He could not lead Jesus into sin. He could not discourage Him, or drive Him from the work He had come to this earth to do. From the desert to Calvary the storm of Satan's wrath beat upon Him, but the more mercilessly it fell, the more firmly did the Son of God cling to the hand of His Father, and press on in the blood-stained path."

5BC 1130.1

"In Christ dwelt all the fulness of the God-head.

But the only way in which He could reach men was to veil His glory by a garb of humanity.

The angels beheld the hiding of His glory, that divinity might touch humanity.

Christ ever retained the **utmost hatred for sin,**

but He **loved the purchase of His blood.**

He suffered in the place of sinful men,

taking them into union with Himself.

This is the mystery into which angels desire to look.

They desire to know **how** Christ could live and work in a fallen world, **how** He could mingle with sinful humanity.

It was a mystery to them that He who hated sin with intense hatred

felt the most tender, compassionate sympathy for the beings that committed sin."

ST, January 20, 1898 par. 3

VIII. His Blameless Life

44. When Jesus was here on earth, was He tempted like we are tempted? **Hebrews 4:15**

"For we have not an high priest which _____ be touched with the _____ of our infirmities; but was in _____ points _____ like as _____ are, yet without _____."

Note: "Many claim that it was impossible for Christ to be overcome by temptation. Then He could not have been placed in Adam's position; He could not have gained the victory that Adam failed to gain. **If we have in any sense a more trying conflict than had Christ, then He would not be able to succor us.**

But our Saviour took humanity, with all its liabilities. He took the nature of man, with the **possibility of yielding to temptation.** We have nothing to bear which He has not endured." DA 117.2

"In taking upon Himself man's nature in its fallen condition, Christ did not in the least participate in its sin. He was subject to the infirmities and weaknesses by which man is encompassed, 'that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses' (Matthew 8:17). He was touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and was in all points tempted like as we are. And yet He knew no sin. He was the Lamb 'without blemish and without spot' (1 Peter 1:19). Could Satan in the least particular have tempted Christ to sin, he would have bruised the Saviour's **head**. As it was, he could only touch His **heel**. Had the **head** of Christ been touched, the hope of the human race would have perished. Divine wrath would have come upon Christ as it came upon Adam. Christ and the church would have been without hope." 1SM 256.1

"We should have no misgivings in regard to the **perfect sinlessness of the human nature of Christ.** Our faith must be an intelligent faith, looking unto Jesus in **perfect confidence**, in **full and entire faith** in the atoning Sacrifice. This is **essential** that the soul may not be enshrouded in darkness. This holy Substitute is able to save to the uttermost; for **He presented to the wondering universe perfect and complete humility in His human character, and perfect obedience to all the requirements of God.** Divine power is placed upon man, that he may become a partaker of the divine nature, having escaped

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the corruption that is in the world through lust. This is why repenting, believing man can be made the righteousness of God in Christ." 1SM 256.2

45 How was Jesus able to keep Himself from participating in sin? **Mark 1:35**

"And in the _____, rising up a great while before day, he went _____, and departed into a _____ place, and there _____."

Matthew 14:23 "And when he had _____ the multitudes _____, he went up into a mountain _____ to _____: and when the evening was come, he was there _____."

Luke 6:12 "And it came to pass in those days, that he went _____ into a mountain to _____, and continued all night in _____ to God."

Note: "Christ lived a life of prayer. Daily beset by temptation, constantly opposed by the leaders of the people, He knew that He must **strengthen His humanity by prayer**. In order to be a blessing to men, He must commune with God, from Him obtaining energy, perseverance, steadfastness." ST, April 26, 1905 par. 5

"He is a brother in our infirmities, but not in possessing like passions. As the sinless One, His nature recoiled from evil. He endured struggles and torture of soul in a world of sin. His **humanity made prayer a necessity and privilege.**" FLB 49.3

46. At the end of His life, after having endured continuous temptations from Satan, He declared: **John 14:30** "Hereafter I will not _____ much with you: for the _____ of this _____ cometh, and hath _____ in me."

Hebrews 2:18 "For in that he himself hath _____ being _____, he is _____ to succour them that are _____."

Note: "Would that we could comprehend the significance of the words, Christ '**suffered being tempted.**' While He was free from the taint of sin, the refined sensibilities of His holy nature rendered **contact with evil unspeakably painful to Him**. Yet with human nature upon Him, He **met** the archapostate face to face, and single-handed **withstood** the foe of His throne. Not even by a **thought** could Christ be brought to **yield** to the power of temptation." 7BC 927.4

"Satan finds in human hearts some point where he can gain a foothold; **some sinful desire is cherished, by means of which his temptations assert their power**. But Christ declared of Himself, 'The prince of this world cometh, and hath **nothing** in me.' The storms of temptation burst upon Him, but they **could not** cause Him to swerve from His allegiance to God." 7 BC 927.5

The first Adam fell;

the second Adam **held fast to God and His Word under the most trying circumstances, and His faith in His Father's goodness, mercy, and love did not waver for one moment.**

"It is written" was His **weapon of resistance**,

and it is the sword of the Spirit **which every human being is to use.**

'Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me' –
t nothing to **respond** to temptation.

i On not one occasion was there a **response** to his manifold temptations.

x Not once did Christ **step** on Satan's ground, to give him any advantage.

4 Satan found **nothing** in Him to encourage his advances." 5BC 1129.2

"Have we forgotten that Jesus, the Majesty of heaven, suffered being tempted? **Jesus did not allow**

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the enemy to pull Him into the mire of unbelief, or crowd Him into the mire of despondency and despair.

But many poor souls are **feeble** in moral power because they **do not do** the words of Christ." 7BC 927.6

"Christ in the **weakness of humanity** was to **meet the temptations** of one possessing the powers of the higher nature that God had bestowed on the angelic family. **But Christ's humanity was united with divinity**, and **in this strength** He would bear all the temptations that Satan could bring against Him, and yet keep His soul untainted by sin. **And this power to overcome He would give to every son and daughter of Adam who would accept by faith the righteous attributes of His character.**" 7BC 927.7

46. What does it mean that Jesus was the Second Adam?

Romans 5:19 For as by _____ man's _____ many were made _____, so by the _____ of _____ **shall** many be made _____.

"**Christ is called the second Adam.** In purity and holiness, connected with God and beloved by God, he began where the first Adam began. **Willingly he passed over the ground where Adam fell**, and redeemed Adam's failure." YI, June 2, 1898 par. 1

47. What difference was there between the first Adam and the second Adam?

Under what conditions was the first Adam tempted?

Genesis 1:31 "And God saw _____ thing that he had _____, and, behold, it was _____ . And the evening and the morning were the _____ day."

Genesis 2:8 "And the _____ God planted a _____ eastward in Eden; and _____ he put the _____ whom he had formed."

Genesis 2:18 "And the _____ God said, It is not _____ that the man should be _____; I will _____ him an _____ meet for him."

Everything around him was declared _____ by God Himself.

In addition, God made a special _____ for him.

God did not leave Him alone, He gave him a companion, a H_____.

Note: "But the first Adam was in every way more favorably situated than was Christ. The wonderful provision made for man in Eden was made by a God who loved him. Everything in nature was **pure** and **undefiled**. Fruits, flowers, and beautiful, lofty trees **flourished** in the garden of Eden. With **every needed blessing**, Adam and Eve were **abundantly supplied**. Not a shadow interposed between them and their Creator. **They knew God as their beneficent Father**, and in **all** things their will was **conformed** to the will of God. And God's **character** was **reflected** in the character of Adam. His **glory** was revealed in **every** object of nature. The invisible things of God were **clearly seen**, being understood by the things that were made, even his eternal power and Godhead." YI, 6-2-98 par. 2

48. Under what conditions was the Second Adam tempted?

Genesis 3:17-19 "And unto Adam he said, _____ thou hast hearkened unto the _____ of thy wife, and hast _____ of the tree, of which I _____ thee, saying, Thou shalt _____ eat of it: _____ is the _____ for thy sake; in _____ shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; _____ also and _____ shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the _____ of the field; In the _____ of thy face shalt thou eat

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bread, till thou _____ unto the _____; for out of it wast thou taken: for _____ thou art, and unto _____ shalt thou _____."

g The ground was _____ at the time of Adam's fall.

Genesis 4:11,12 "And now art thou _____ from the earth, which hath _____ her mouth to _____ thy brother's _____ from thy hand; When thou tillest the _____, it shall _____ henceforth yield unto thee her _____; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth."

A second _____ fell upon the earth when _____ killed _____.

Genesis 6:12,13 "And God looked upon the _____, and, behold, it was _____; for _____ flesh had _____ his _____ upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, The _____ of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is _____ with _____ through them; and, behold, I will _____ them with the _____."

g By the days of Noah, the earth was _____ and filled with _____ so that God had to _____ those wicked people when He destroyed the _____ with a _____.

This was the third C_____ upon the earth. It drastically changed the earth.

Did things improve after the Flood? YES NO

Genesis 8:21 And the _____ smelled a sweet savour; and the LORD said in his heart, I will not again _____ the ground any more for man's sake; for the _____ of man's heart is _____ from his youth; neither will I again smite any more _____ thing living, as I have done."

g God chose the children of Israel to be a light to the world and to show to all nations the blessings of obedience to God's instructions. Did they do it? YES NO

Judges 3:7 "And the children of Israel did _____ in the sight of the LORD, and _____ the LORD their God, and _____ Baalim and the groves."

g They wanted to be **like** the other nations, so they asked for a king. The record of almost all the kings is like the one in **2 Chronicles 12:14**: "And he did _____, because he prepared _____ his _____ to seek the _____."

g When God in mercy doesn't destroy them right away for their evil work, but gives them opportunity to repent, how do they interpret His mercy? **Ecclesiastes 8:11**

"Because _____ against an _____ work is not executed _____, **therefore** the _____ of the sons of men is _____ set in them to do _____."

What message was sent to them over and over again? **Ezekiel 33:11** "Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no _____ in the _____ of the wicked; but that the wicked _____ from his way and _____: turn ye, _____ ye from your _____ ways; for _____ will ye _____, O house of Israel?"

g How do Isaiah and Jeremiah describe the the character of those who were God's people?

Isaiah 59:7-9 "Their feet _____ to evil, and they make _____ to shed innocent _____: their _____ are thoughts of _____; wasting and _____ are in

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their paths. The way of _____ they know _____; and there is no _____ in their goings: they have made them _____ paths: whosoever _____ therein shall not know peace. Therefore is judgment _____ from us, neither doth _____ overtake us: we wait for _____, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in _____."

Jeremiah 9:3 "And they bend their _____ like their bow for _____: but they are not _____ for the _____ upon the earth; for they proceed from _____ to _____, and they _____ me, saith the LORD."

g What were people like at the time that Christ lived on the earth?

Isaiah 60:2 "For, behold, the _____ shall cover the earth, and _____ darkness the _____: but the _____ shall arise upon thee, and his _____ shall be seen upon thee."

John 3:19,20 "And this is the condemnation, that _____ is come into the _____, and men loved _____ rather than _____, because their deeds were _____. For every one that _____ evil hateth the _____, neither _____ to the light, lest his _____ should be _____."

Note: "When Christ came, it was to a world disloyal to God – a world all seared and marred by the curse of rebellion. Since the fall, the arch-deceiver had carried on his work with intense vigor, until the curse of transgression had fallen heavily upon the earth. **Men were corrupted by Satan's inventions.** He had been leading them astray by his **false representations of God's character.** Claiming for himself the attributes of mercy, goodness, and truth, he had attributed his own character to God. **These misrepresentations Christ knew he must meet in human nature, and prove to be false.**"

YI, June 2, 1898 par. 5

"**For this**, he, the Commander of all heaven, one with God, **clothed his divinity with humanity.** He humbled himself, taking up his abode on the earth, that he might become **acquainted with the temptations and trials** wherewith man is beset. Before the heavenly universe **he unfolded to men the great salvation** that his righteousness would bring **to all who accept it**, – an **inheritance** among the saints and angels in the presence of God." YI, June 2, 1898 par. 6

"**Christ was tempted by Satan in a hundredfold severer manner than was Adam**, and under circumstances in every way more trying. The deceiver presented himself as an angel of light, but Christ withstood his temptations. He redeemed Adam's disgraceful fall, and saved the world." YI, June 2, 1898, par. 7

49. **When** did Christ come to earth in human nature? **Galatians 4:4**

"But when the _____ of the _____ was come, God _____ forth his _____, made of a woman, made under the _____."

Hebrews 2:16 "For verily he took _____ on him the nature of _____; but he took on him the seed of _____."

It was **after** 4000 years of sin had degraded humanity that Christ came to take human nature.

Note: "It would have been an **almost infinite humiliation** for the Son of God to take man's nature, even when Adam stood in his innocence in Eden. **But Jesus accepted humanity when the race had been weakened by four thousand years of sin.** Like every child of Adam He accepted the results of the working of the great law of heredity. What these results were is shown in the history of His earthly ancestors. He came with such a heredity **to share our sorrows and temptations, and to give us the**

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example of a sinless life." DA 48.5

"With his human arm, Christ encircled the race, while with his divine arm, he grasped the throne of the Infinite, **uniting finite man with the infinite God**. He bridged the gulf that sin had made, and **connected** earth with heaven. In his human nature he maintained the **purity** of his divine character. **He lived the law of God**, and honored it in a world of transgression, **revealing to the heavenly universe, to Satan, and to all the fallen sons and daughters of Adam, that through his grace, humanity can keep the law of God**. He came to impart his own divine nature, his own image, **to the repentant, believing soul.**" YI, June 2, 1898 par. 8

"There is **hope** for **all** who will **come** to Christ and **receive** him as their **personal** Saviour. The **faith** that lays hold upon Christ will work by love and purify the soul." YI, June 2, 1898 par. 9

49. What did Paul say the gospel brings to us? **2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

"But if our **gospel** be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the **god of this world hath blinded the minds** of them which believe not, lest the **light** of the glorious **gospel** of Christ, who is the **image of God**, should **shine** unto them. For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, **who commanded the light to shine out of darkness**, [Genesis 1:3] hath shined in our **hearts**, to give the **light** of the **knowledge** of the **glory of God** in the **face of Jesus Christ.**"

It brings us the L_____ of the G_____ [character] of God as demonstrated in the life of _____.

Note: Christ was God manifest in the flesh. In Him divinity and humanity were united. In Him dwelt all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. He lived in this world a **perfect** life, **revealing the character to which, through divine grace, man may attain.**

In His life He left an **example** that every true Christian must follow.

No falsehood ever fell from His lips.

Never did He do a **dishonest** act.

He stood forth in **unsullied purity and goodness**,

revealing what man must be before he can enter the holy city." ST, April 26, 1905 par. 3

"**Christ's life was one of constant self-sacrifice.** He came to this world to live, in our behalf, the life of the poorest, to walk and work among the needy and the suffering. **Unrecognized and unhonored**, He walked in and out among the people for whom He had done so much. On the hillsides of Galilee, in the great thoroughfares of travel, by the seashore, in every place where there were those who needed help, Jesus healed the people, and pointed them to their heavenly Father. His life **laid the foundation** for a religion in which there is no caste, where Jew and Gentile, free and bond, are linked in a **common brotherhood**, equal before God." ST, 4-26-05, par. 4

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