

# God Magnified, Part 5

## Discerning “the Truth”

By Eric Mumford

**LIFECHANGERS®**

P.O. Box 3709 ❖ Cookeville, TN 38502

931.520.3730 ❖ [lc@lifechangers.org](mailto:lc@lifechangers.org)

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## PLUMBLINE

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## **God Magnified:**

God is an “**Us**”– three Individuals (Gen. 1:26, 3:22, 11:7; Isa. 6:8).

“God is **one**” (Deut. 6:4; Mark 12:29).

“God is **Agape**” (1John 4:8, 16).

“God is a **sun**” (Ps. 84:11).

“**Holy, Holy, Holy** is the Lord God, the Almighty” (Rev. 4:8; Isa. 6:8).

“God is **Light**” (1John 1:5).

“The eternal God is a **dwelling place**” (Deut. 33:27).

“God is “**in Christ**” (Col. 2:9; 2Cor. 5:19; Eph. 4:32).

“God is **Spirit**” (John 4:24).

“God is **true**” (John 3:33).

“The Lord is a God of **justice**” (Isa. 30:18).

“The Lord, whose name is **Jealous**, is a jealous God” (Ex. 34:14).

“God is a **consuming fire**” (Deut. 4:24; Heb. 12:29).

God is Three sacrificial **Self-sharers**.

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### Introduction

In this *Plumblines* series, we are discovering the “**dwelling place**,” which the Persons of the Trinity not only *share* but which the three Eternals *are*. Before the heavens and the earth or any created being existed, the “eternal **Father**” (Isa. 9:6), the “eternal **Son**” (1Tim. 1:16-17; John 1:1), and the “eternal **Spirit**” (Heb. 9:14), *Themselves*, constituted “the **eternal kingdom**” (2Pet. 1:11). God is three relational, Self-giving Persons who *mutually indwell* One Another. The Triune-God is profoundly inclusive and hospitable; into this relational, inter-Personal ‘infrastructure’ known as “the kingdom of God” we have been invited. The Triune-God is calling us Home into Themselves: re-gene-rating, ‘fusing,’ and acculturating us as adopted children into “**God in Christ**.”

The “*God is*” statements of the Scriptures are like ‘pillars’ of a covered porch built around the entire circumference of “*God is a dwelling place*” (Deut. 33:27); each ‘pillar’ serves as a lens to see and understand the next. Progressive magnification of these “*God is*” declarations leads to a three-dimensional understanding of “the eternal kingdom” and draws us to enter and participate

through the God-Man Jesus in the “eternal life” of the Triune-God. As kingdom emigrants, we are pioneering forward together into this unfolding revelation of **The Fusion of the Trinity**.

In the previous volume, *Awakening to Spiritual Reality*, we magnified “**God is Spirit**.” We discovered how Father, Son, and Spirit, as three non-material Beings (*Pnuema*), fuse into One Another Spirit into Spirit as a fusion Vortex or “**whirlwind**” (Nahum 1:3; Acts 2:2; Heb. 12:18). The Triune-Spirit created individual human beings as a tri-unity—spirit, soul, and body—to be ‘fuse-able’ beings. We learned how, as free individuals, we are fused by Agape [*sacrificial self-giving love*] into the Triune-Spirit: “he who joins himself to the Lord is **one spirit** with Him” (1Cor. 6:17).

Jesus testified, “God is Spirit and those who worship Him must worship **in spirit** [*prevailing, life-giving human spirit*] and **truth** [*fuse-able DNA of Agape*]” (John 4:24). In this *Plumblines*, we will magnify “**God is true**” (John 3:33) to receive a deeper understanding of the divine nature of Agape—the “true” Love by which Father, Son, and Spirit abide in perpetual fusion as one God. In repentance, David acknowledged, “You desire **truth in the innermost being** [*DNA*]” (Ps. 51:8). We will discover how “**truth is in Jesus**” (Eph. 4:21), and how we by His grace become sharers in Paul’s testimony, “**the truth of Christ is in me**” (2Cor. 11:10). By carefully examining and

receiving this *truth*, which the Triune-God desires to plant, cultivate, and mature within us, we are made capable of participating in a relationship of reciprocal gene-rosity with Father, Son, Spirit, and one another—the kingdom of God.

The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and great in **lovingkindness** [*Agape without hypocrisy*]. The Lord is good to all [“...causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good...sends rain on the righteous and unrighteous” *Mt. 5:45*], and His mercies are over all His works [*even de-gene-rate enemies*]....The Lord is righteous [*Self-giving*] in all His ways and kind in all His deeds [*even God’s severe judgments are redemptive*]. The Lord is **near** [*Triune-Spirit into human spirit*] to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him **in truth** [*reciprocate Agape without hypocrisy*] (Psalm 145:8-9, 17).

### **Man’s Futile Search for Truth**

O, the untold miles mankind has journeyed on twisted, torturous paths in search for ‘truth!’ Philosophy and religion are hedged pathways of the same **dark maze** intentionally and maliciously designed to lead seekers into ‘con-fusion’ and futility. Arriving at one dead-end after another, men become increasingly “weary and heavy-laden

[*lit. work to exhaustion*]” (Mt. 11:28). For the degenerate man decaying in eros (self-love) and fission, known as “**the lie**” (John 8:44; Rom. 3:7), transcendent spiritual Reality—“God is Spirit” (John 4:24) and “God is Agape [*true, sacrificial Self-giving Love*]” (1John 4:8)—is always just out of reach. Man’s body is enslaved to self-indulgence, his soul tyrannized by self-will, and therefore his spirit is inebriated, incapacitated, and **eclipsed by individualism**: self-worth-ship. The corrupt man who searches for truth equipped only with one-dimensional, eros rationale (self-centered presuppositions) has embarked upon a futile quest: “They reeled and staggered like a drunken [*self-satiated*] man, and were at their **wits’ end**” (Ps. 107:27).

Paul observed that these corrupted, inebriated men “spend their time in nothing other than telling or hearing something new” (Acts 17:21), and they are “always learning and never able to come to a **knowledge of the truth** [*Triune-Agape*]” (2Tim. 3:7). The Scriptures testify, however, that degenerate mankind does not simply *fail to see* the truth or merely *bypass* truth inadvertently. The reality of our ignorance (eclipse) is much darker and fouler than that: “**Men suppress the truth** [*Agape: sacrificial self-giving Love*] **in unrighteousness** [*eros: self-love*]....They became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened [*eclipsed*]” (Rom. 1:18, 21).

Recently, I was fascinated by a certain ‘truism’ I happened to read in a bookstore: “The wisdom of the Taoist: ‘No one can see **their reflection** in running water; it is only in still water we can see.’” Typical of eastern mysticism and philosophy in general, it *sounds* so profound, so deep and ‘spiritual.’ Yet, if we penetrate the dazzling ‘smoke and mirrors’ façade of this **counterfeit truth**, we recognize the primary objective is **self-discovery**—the belief that ‘Ultimate Reality’ is inherent in *self* and can be found *within self* if we will simply learn to calm and ‘center’ our restless *self*. Human beings have devised endless strategies and methods to discover ‘truth,’ but the fundamental presupposition of them all is self-assertion and self-focus; the trademark, whether cleverly concealed or overtly stated, is *always* “**know thyself**.” A classic example of eros-infected philosophy in Western culture is Whitney Houston’s platinum hit, *The Greatest Love of All*, released in 1986. Examine the lyrics of the main chorus:

I decided long ago, never to walk in  
anyone’s shadow;  
If I fail, if I succeed, at least I’ll live as I  
believe;  
No matter what they take from me, they  
can’t take away my dignity;  
Because the greatest love of all is  
happening to me,

**I found the greatest love of all inside of me;**

The greatest love of all is easy to achieve,  
Learning to **love yourself** is the greatest  
love of all.

Some of us, however, have received from God a measure of faith to believe that **self-inquiry** is too *subjective* to be a reliable source of truth and that the only *objective* source in this world is the Scriptures. Yet, we Bible-believers who remain largely acculturated in eros do not know how to “**accurately handle the word of truth**” (2Tim. 2:15). Perceiving certain passages as beneficial, we extract them from the whole and marginalize the rest. We force our own interpretations upon Scripture, twisting verses to fit our own paradigms and doctrines (known as *eisegesis*) and therefore end up ‘majoring in minors.’ Paul called this “**adulterating the word of God**” (2Cor. 4:2), that is, searching the Scriptures for personal gain—to reinforce, enhance, and confirm the ‘Christian me’ (see John 5:39).

Further, in religious self-interest masked as spiritual fervor, we injure our brothers and sisters by using the Bible as a weapon against them in defense of our own point of view. We splinter from one another in *fission* over the very ‘handbook’ God provided to guide us into *fusion*—diverse, unique individuals in sacrificial

self-giving Oneness: “that they may be **one just as We** [*Father, Son, Spirit*] **are one**...that they may be perfected in unity [*lit. as one*]” (John 17:22-23). Paul addressed this fission dynamic among self-focused believers in his day:

I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the **calling** with which you have been called [*into the kingdom: the fusion of the Triune-God and man in Jesus—the God-Man Nucleus*], with all humility [*self-emptying*] and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another **in Agape** [*sacrificial self-giving Love*], being diligent to preserve [*at your own expense*] the **unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace [*relational, inter-personal oneness—spirit into spirit*]. There is **one body** [*many individuals fused into the Son—One Nucleus*] and **one Spirit**, just as you were called in **one hope** of your calling; **one Lord** [*Trinity*], **one faith, one baptism** [*“into one new man” Eph. 2:15*], **one God** and Father of all who is over all [*“third heaven” 2Cor. 12:2*] and through all and **in all** [*Father is fused into us through the Spirit, in the Son*] (Eph. 4:1-6).

The secret of the mystery of “God is true” is adequately and masterfully contained in the

written Scriptures; however, our simplistic belief that *Bible = truth* and the counterproductive way we *handle the word of truth* are clearly preventing us from discovering and entering the fullness of this ultimate Reality. What, exactly, is the Triune-God trying to tell us through the Bible? How do we find the end of the string that will “guide us into all the truth?” (John 16:13). What is the interpretive **master-key** that can set us firmly on the rails in our thinking and enable us to grow forward into God’s own rationale and Reality?

R. Clement observed, “The diversity of the biblical traditions find their **unity** only in the nature and being of God” (*Old Testament Theology: A fresh Approach*, Knox Press, p 23). In my education thus far, the Triune-God is teaching me that His nature and being are most clearly understood through magnifying the “*God is*” declarations of the Bible individually *and* as a collective body of truth: “the **sum** of Your word is truth” (Ps. 119:160). I am discovering that the “God is” statements serve as a framework or skeleton upon which the whole body of truth begins to fit together rationally and accurately both in the Scriptures and in real-life experience. David stated it simply: “**In Your Light we see light**” (Ps. 36:9). *The Light* is comprised of a ‘Spectrum’ of three, eternal ‘Primaries’ running together in one ‘Beam;’ as this Light dawns upon us, we awaken to true Reality. The Bible will only *yield* “truth” insofar as we can discover in the

Spirit-breathed pages “God is true” by *practicing* Trinity-like oneness together as one body, in one faith, with one renewed mind, in one Spirit.

“God is **Agape**” (1John 1:8) and “God is **true**” (John 3:33) are essentially synonymous. Understanding the inseparable connection between these two aspects of one eternal Reality enables us to see deeper into the nature and life of the Trinity. As we magnify “God is Agape,” we see the seven, Self-proclaimed attributes of the Triune-God in Exodus 34. In his book, *The Suffering God*, Terrence Fretheim explains this “**truth-claim:**”

It is not enough to say that God is the one who saves and blesses in these [*Old Testament*] stories; what is crucial is **the kind of God** who is understood to be saving and blessing. A **capricious** God can save and bless. Even an **impersonal** God could engage in such activities. Is such divine activity motivated by love, or are there other factors? It has been demonstrated that there is nothing special about Israel’s believing that God acts in history....There is, moreover, no uniqueness to be found in the fact that its’ God was believed to be a saving and blessing God, though these are important words to preserve....It is the **truth-claims** that Israel makes regarding *the kind of*

**God** who was active in its life that provide a **crucial interpretive clue** [*master-key*] to the story, and insist that it be read in a certain way, delimiting possibilities of meaning.

Alongside these recitals, and sometimes integrated into them (e.g., Deut. 7:6-11; Jer. 32:16-23; Neh. 9:6-31, Ps. 106, 136), is another type of recurring material [*truth-claim*]. Its earliest and fullest articulation is found in Exodus 34:6-7: “The Lord passed by in front of Moses and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and **abounding in steadfast love and truth** [*superabundant, faithful Love—“true” Love*], who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin....” This confessional statement occurs many times in various, usually abbreviated forms, and in numerous echoes, throughout the Old Testament....No other statement can be said to occur so often in the Old Testament (Terrence E. Fretheim, *The Suffering God*, Fortress Press, p. 24-25).

Yet, even this Old Testament understanding of God was inadequate for de-gene-rate mankind to *truly* and *fully* awaken to ‘ultimate Reality.’

Concerning the Jews who knew the Old Covenant, Paul testified:

They have a **zeal** for God, but not in accordance with **knowledge** [*of Triune-Agape*]. For not knowing about God's righteousness [*sacrificial Self-giving*] and seeking to **establish their own** [*self-righteous works for an eros payoff*], they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God [*refused to receive or reciprocate God's sacrificial Self-giving*] (Rom. 10:2-3).

We can only discover the *true* nature and being of God as He purposed to reveal and explain Himself to us--in the *Nucleus* of the Trinity, the *true* God-Man Jesus Christ:

God [*Father, Son, Spirit*], after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many **portions** and in many ways, in these last days has **spoken to us in His Son** [*the full Word: revelation of the "fullness" of God is true*], whom He appointed **heir** of all things, through whom also He made the world [*Prototype*]. And He is the **radiance of His glory** [*fullness of the Trinity dwelling in fusion in one God-Man Nucleus*] and the **exact representation of His nature** [*gen-uine Agape*], and **upholds**

**all things** [*physical and metaphysical*]  
by the word of His power (Heb. 1:1-3).

The world's approach to 'ultimate Reality,' both secular and religious, both Eastern and Western, and including many varieties of misguided 'Christianity,' is essentially "**know thyself**"—discovering 'truth' *within* me, *for* myself. Paul's approach to truth and Reality, however, was altogether different: "I count all things loss [*self-emptying*] in view of the surpassing value of **knowing Christ** my Lord [*God in Christ*]..." (Phil. 3:8). By *displacement*, Paul received "a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself [*Nucleus of "God is true"*], **in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge** [*both natural and spiritual*]" (Col. 2:2-3). This *true knowledge* is much more than a static collection of accurate ideas or an academic discipline to be mastered; it is a dynamic, living Reality. Paul testified, "**the truth of Christ is in me**" (2Cor. 11:10).

The book of *Revelation* is frequently misinterpreted by those who 'major in minors.' John's *Revelation* is not about prophecy, end-times, angels, beasts, plagues, Armageddon, raptures, or even the church; John received "*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*" (Rev. 1:1). The secret of the mystery of truth—'ultimate spiritual Reality'—is the revelation of "the Son of Father's Agape" (Col.

1:13). No one can meet and get to know the one Triune-God—the ‘**epicenter**’ of **Reality** and Author of all things—unless He introduces Himself to us. “God is true” has chosen to reveal Himself to us in a God-Man, to disclose to us “all the fullness of Deity...in bodily form” (Col. 2:9). This one Nucleus and Source of all physical and metaphysical reality was described by T. Austin Sparks as “the combined and combining Person of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

As believers, we are recovering eros-addicts; we are ‘half-formed’ children of God. Our life in ‘Worthless’ world has a way of leading us into mountain ranges full of magnetic rock that cause our inward ‘compass needle’ to spin erratically; we cannot determine ‘true north,’ what is real, or which way to go. In the midst of a plethora of emotional tugs, philosophical and theological riptides, rabbit-chases, double-mindedness, and con-fusion, there is only one ‘**True North**’ in every existential and practical sense of the word:

John the Baptist answered and said, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven [*true North*].... He [*the God-Man Jesus*] who comes from heaven is above all [*Son of God Most High has a birds-eye view*]. What He has seen and heard [*Triune-Agape, fusion Glory, the kingdom*], of that **He testifies**; and no

one receives His testimony. He who has received His testimony has set his seal to this, that **God is true**” (John 4:27-33).

### **Pillar 10. “God is true”**

The *truth*, which *God is*, has infinite aspects and depths, yet it is summed up and contained “in one word...Agape” (Gal. 5:14). Truth and Agape are one, inseparable Reality: “If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and **all knowledge**...but do not have **Agape** [*fuse-able DNA: “the divine nature” Rom. 1:20*], I am **nothing** [*e.g. worthless, fruitless, eclipsed from the Reality of the Triune-God*]” (1Cor. 13:2). If I gather vast amounts of knowledge into myself and use it for self-interest to impress and exploit people for self-actualization and self-indulgence and if I do not receive from God His *gene-rous* nature that enables me to pass that knowledge on to others for their sakes, both I and my knowledge are **worthless**.

Paul exclaimed, “Oh, the depth of the **riches** both of the wisdom and knowledge of God” (Rom. 11:33). In the ‘economy’ of the kingdom of God, these *riches* are not material things: power, dominion, reputation, or even omniscience. Father, Son, and Spirit consider *riches* to be that ‘yield’ of relational “**fullness**” (Col. 2:9) and inter-personal **Oneness**, which come from being fused together by **Agape**. As we magnify “God is

true,” we discover that *all* accurate, undistorted knowledge (both natural and spiritual) and *all* pure, unadulterated wisdom originate from God’s “true,” *fuse-able* nature. The Scriptures repeatedly refer to this as “**the knowledge of the truth**” (1Tim. 2:4; 2Tim. 2:25, 3:7; Titus 1:1; Heb. 10:26).

Agape is an extreme *self-forsaking* Love—a holy, eros-free Love, and Agape is a comprehensive, sacrificial *self-giving* Love; therefore, **Agape is “true” Love**. “God is true” *because* “God is Agape” (1John 4:8). God is three eternal Beings—“Holy, Holy, Holy” (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8)—fused in relational, inter-Personal Oneness by “true” Love. If God were not a Trinity, God could not be Agape; Agape requires *another* outside of oneself to be the *object* of its faithful affection and comprehensive self-giving. If God was a *solitary* Being, He would be Self-love. “But the Lord is the **true** God; He is the **living** God [*three unique Individuals ‘alive’ to One Another in “true” Love*]” (Jer. 10:10).

Love [*Agape*] cannot be consummated by a **solitary subject** [*individual*]...If God is love He is at once the lover, the beloved and the love itself...You see the Trinity when you see love, for the lover, the beloved and the love are **three**” (Jürgen Moltmann, *The Trinity and the Kingdom*, p 57).

Each Person of the Trinity, as an Individual, is “true” in Agape; therefore, “God is true [*Love*].” **Father is true:** “Every good thing given and every perfect [*eros-free*] gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights [*lit. luminaries*], with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow [*lie, hypocrisy, or unfaithfulness*]” (James 1:17). The eternal, pre-incarnate **Son is true:** “the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God” (Rev. 3:14). The **Holy Spirit is true:** “the Spirit is the truth [*a faithful, sacrificial Self-giver*]” (1John 5:6). God is *three* Individuals in perpetual fusion Oneness by sacrificial Self-giving Love: “**God is true [*Love*].” Moltmann explains:**

Here we **know** [*Reality*] only in so far as we **love** [*Agape*]. Here we know in order to participate. To know God [*Father, Son, Spirit*] means to **participate in the fullness** [*relational, inter-Personal Oneness*] of the Divine Life....The three Persons are **deeply bound** to One Another and **dependent** on One Another...By virtue of the love [*Agape: sacrificial Self-giving*] the Father and the Son have for One Another, **They exist totally in the Other** [*fusion*]: the Father exists, by virtue of His love, as Himself **entirely in** the Son; the Son, by virtue of His **self-surrender**, exists as Himself **totally in** the Father.

Each Person finds his **existence** and His **joy in** the other Person [*God's Reality*]. Each Person receives the fullness of eternal Life from the Other—**perichoresis**.... The Son is eternally **with** and **in** the Father. The Father is never without the Son and **nowhere acts without Him**, just as He is never without, and never acts without, **the Spirit** (Jürgen Moltmann, *The Trinity and the Kingdom*, p. 108).

The Triune-Holy does not just *do* Agape; individually, and as one God, Father, Son, and Spirit *are* this “true” Love, which “will most gladly spend and be expended for [*another*]” (2Cor. 12:15). Agape is “the divine nature” (2Pet. 1:4) or **fuse-able DNA** of all Three. The free and perpetual sacrificial Self-giving of Father, Son, and Spirit into One Another is the impetus of the *fusion* of the Trinity: “**God is one**” (Mark 12:29). This fusion dynamic is explained by the word **perichoresis**: mutual indwelling and interpenetration without loss of personal (individual) identity. Together, Father, Son, and Spirit are “**the God of truth**” (Ps. 31:5; Isa. 65:16) because each is a *Sharer* of the same, *gen-uine*, extreme Self-forsaking Love:

**Agape** is patient [*denies ‘me now’ for another*], Agape is kind [*conscious of, and gracious to, another*] and is **not jealous**

[*not jealous-of, but jealous-for another*]; Agape does not brag [*self-magnification*] and is **not arrogant** [*empty conceit, self-worth-ship*], does not act unbecomingly [*self-centered attention seeking*]; it **does not seek its own** [*willful self-indulgence*], is not provoked [*self-defensive*], does not take into account a wrong suffered [*calculate self-interest*], does not rejoice in unrighteousness [*eros individualism*], but **rejoices with the truth** [*fullness of joy in relational faithfulness, self-giving Oneness*]; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things [*for the sake of another*]. **Agape** [*“true” Love*] **never fails** (1Cor. 13:4-8).

Music has a profound way of penetrating the human spirit and expressing deep spiritual yearnings. Music history uniquely reveals mankind’s fascination with ‘true love’ since it is the theme of the vast majority of lyrics. In 1956, Elvis Presley recorded his famous ballad *Love me tender, love me true*. More recently, a country music band called The Oak Ridge Boys recorded *I’ll Be True to You*, and an American hip-hop group called the Black Eyed Peas recorded a song entitled *True* (2004), which contains in the chorus: “I know this much is true...my love for you is true...”

The gasoline poured on the fire of man’s

preoccupation with true love is the fact it remains so elusive and unattainable to us in our *de-gene-rate* condition. Since all human beings are corrupted by **self-love** (eros), known as “**the lie**” (John 8:44; Rom. 3:7), we are incapable of fully understanding what “true” Love is. The Source of *gen-uine* Love is our Triune-Creator, the “Us” of our genesis (Gen. 1:26). **Eclipsed** from the Light of true Triune-Love, **God’s Reality**, our version of ‘true love’ is **unreality**—a gross distortion and perversion of “the truth.”

As a *de-gene-rate* individualist, I am incapable of *true* Love in any tested, proven, sustainable form nor can I find *gene-rous* Love in another that “never fails” (1Cor. 13:8). In spite of this desperate, agonizing condition, none of us can stop searching for true Love, but **like fools, we keep trying to find ‘it’ for self!** If *true* Love cannot be found either in myself or in another, how much less are we eros-infected creatures capable of reciprocal Love and “maintaining the same Agape” (Phil. 2:2). Indeed, *true* Love is the most rare thing on earth; Solomon observed, “If a man were to give all the riches of his house for love, it would be utterly despised” (Songs 8:7).

True love is also the predominant theme in literature. This love, which captures our imagination, is not necessarily romantic love. Alexandre Dumas’ classic novel, *The Three Musketeers* (1844), is the story of a young man

named d'Artagnan who enters the world of three inseparable comrades that live by the motto: "**All for one, one for all.**" The oneness (solidarity) of these three, unique individuals makes them a formidable force against those influential usurpers (agents of fission) whose schemes threaten the stability and peace of the kingdom. As young d'Artagnan is acculturated into the life, ways, and mandate of these three friends, he finds his own personal identity and purpose. Is this not a profound analogy of the *original* Three Musketeers and of our adoption, re-generation, and naturalization into Their kingdom of perichoresis?

Through the Scriptures, God is repeatedly called "**The Rock**" of refuge and salvation (2Sam. 23:3; Ps. 62:7; Isa. 30:29). The three Eternals are *Themselves* this solid, secure refuge: "the eternal God is a dwelling place" (Deut. 33:27). When we magnify the Source of the strength and stability of this fortified cohabitation, we discover it is "true" Triune-Love: the relational, inter-Personal **solidarity** of Father, Son, and Spirit in sacrificial Self-giving (Agape) to One Another. Each Individual *gene-rously affords* to the other Two the vulnerability (weakness) of His unconditional and comprehensive **Self-expenditure**, and in this fusion dynamic "power is perfected in weakness" (2Cor. 12:9). The Rock has three, cohesive 'Ingredients;' the kingdom of the Triune-God is

an inter-Personal ‘infrastructure’ built and held together by the *solidarity* of true Love. The Rock of Triune-Agape facilitates “**a kingdom which cannot be shaken**” (Heb. 12:28).

Jesus Himself is called “the rock” (1Cor. 10:4) and the “choice Cornerstone” (1Pet. 2:6-7) because “in Him all the fullness of Deity [*the Triune-Rock*] dwells in bodily form [*in one unshakable God-Man Nucleus*] and in Him you have been made full” (Col. 2:9-10). We are *made full* with “the Agape of God [*true Triune-Love*] which is in [*fused into*] Christ Jesus our Lord [*God-Man Nucleus*” (Rom. 8:39). We are being invited to enter and participate in the relational fullness and solidarity of this *true Love*, which Father, Son, and Spirit share, located *within* a Man tested and proven unshakable. Jesus said:

Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine [*“whoever loses his life for My sake will find it” Mt. 16:25*] and **acts** on them [*practices Agape: receives and reciprocates “true” Love*], may be compared to a wise man who **built his house on the rock** [*fused into the Nucleus of Triune-Solidarity*]. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been **founded on the rock** [*God in Christ*] (Mt. 7:24-25).

This unshakable kingdom *is* God's truth and God's Reality; therefore, it is "true" Reality—the primary, most fundamental presupposition of *all* accurate knowledge, *all* unadulterated wisdom, and *all* genuine truth. The Rock is immovable, and the Reality is non-negotiable: "There is no wisdom and no understanding and no counsel against the Lord" (Prov. 21:30). The truth of God is **Three-Dimensional rationale**: "God is in unobliterated unity the revealer, the revelation, and the being-revealed" (Karl Barth). As Individuals, neither the Father, the Son, or the Spirit ever reveals *Himself*; rather, in true, *self-less* Love, each will only reveal, glorify, and exalt the other Two. However, in the God-Man Jesus, the combined and combining Person, this eternal, Three-Dimensional Reality has taken on a **fourth-dimension** since we human beings are being fused into the Son as "members" (1Cor. 12:20) of His own body:

That Christ [*the God-Man*] may dwell in your hearts through faith, and that you, being rooted and grounded in Agape [*God's "true," fuse-able nature made communicable to us in Jesus*] may be able to **comprehend** [*Reality*] with all the saints [*an 'us' in Trinity-like Oneness*] what is the **breadth** and **length** and **height** and **depth** [*four dimensional kingdom/cohabitation*] and to know the Agape of Christ [*Trinity*]

*and man in one God-Man Nucleus*] which **surpasses knowledge** [*a transcendent, all-encompassing Reality*], that you [*the many-membered bride*] may be filled up to all the fullness of God [*fused into the Nucleus of “God is true”*] (Eph. 3:17-19).

As de-gene-rate human beings, our ‘reality’ is something altogether different from God’s since we have all “**exchanged the truth of God** [*God’s Reality*] **for a lie** [*a mirage, false reality*] and worshipped and served the creature [*self-worth-ship*] rather than the Creator [*the “Us” Gen. 1:26*]” (Rom. 1:25). Even as ‘half-formed’ believers, we are still largely infected with “the lie” and remain acculturated in the *un-reality* of eros individualism—‘menow’—and the self-referential, **one-dimensional rationale** and paradigms that accompany it. Self-love eclipses *true* Love: “The arrogance of your heart [*self-worth-ship*] **deceives you**” (Obad. 1:3). Paul explained:

Let no man **deceive himself**. If any man among you thinks that he is **wise in this age** [*a self-sufficient individualist*], he must become **foolish** [*self-emptying*] so that he may become **wise** [*a partaker of true Triune-Love*]. For the **wisdom of this world** [*eros rationale: self-indulgence, self-preservation*] is foolishness before

God [*Three sacrificial Self-givers*]. For it is written, “He is the one who catches the wise in their **craftiness** [*predatory hypocrisy*];” and again, “The Lord knows the **reasonings** of the wise, that they are **useless** [*sourced from the nature of the false-father—Worthless*]” (1Cor. 3:18-20).

Even as we confess the Name of Jesus and claim to be following Him, we continue chasing mirages of individualism that lead us into a homeless, barren, powerless, defeated, and futile existence. Our understanding and experience of the Love of God in Christ that has shone upon us is certainly *real*; nevertheless, it remains inadequate, eclipsed, obstructed, and bottle-necked as long as we continue to perceive Love as a solitary Being who loves and gives to ‘me.’

“**Walking in truth**” (3John 3:3-4), or *Emigrating to the Kingdom*, means we are intentionally and progressively *exchanging* our fabricated reality (“the lie”) for God’s Reality—“true” Triune-Agape. Paul described this awakening: “the knowledge of **the truth** which is according to **godliness** [*Trinity-like Agape*], in the hope of eternal life [*fusion Oneness, perichoresis*], which God, who **cannot lie**, promised long ages ago [*lit. before times eternal*]” (Titus 1:1-2). We have been invited into the “true,” superabundant Love of Three *for* One Another poured out upon

us *in fullness* in the God-Man Nucleus of the Trinity, Jesus Christ: “for you [*the de-gene-rate individualist*] have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God [*fused into the Rock: Nucleus of Triune-Solidarity*]” (Col. 3:3).

*Truth* not only pertains to true Love as a spiritual nature; truth encompasses “**all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge**” (Col. 2:3). Remarkably, all natural and spiritual truth—all physical and metaphysical reality—is rooted and sourced entirely in this Love that the Triune-God is: “For since the creation of the [*physical*] world His invisible [*spiritual*] attributes, His eternal power [*fusion*] and divine nature [*Agape*], have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made” (Rom. 1:20).

As we magnify “God is a sun” (Ps. 84:11) and “God is a consuming fire, a jealous God” (Deut. 4:24), we discover an infinite fusion power Source, which never needs to be renewed, *generated* by the “true,” unshakable, *jealous-for* Love that moves each of the three Eternals to give Himself perpetually into the other Two. The “Us” of our genesis (Gen.1:26) intentionally revealed this **spiritual Reality** in the power-source of Their **natural creation**: atomic nuclear fusion fuels the stars providing heat, light, photosynthesis, and life. The very last line of Dante Alighieri’s epic poem *Divine Comedy* (1321) is a curious summary of his vision of God. He writes that God is not

merely a blinding vision of glorious light but “**the Love that moves the sun and the other stars.**” Albert Einstein received the counter-intuitive revelation of atomic nuclear fusion as a result of his magnetism into this very metaphysical Reality: “I maintain that the cosmic religious feeling is the strongest and noblest motivation for scientific research” (Einstein, *The World as I See It*).

Daniel was recognized as a man endowed with a form of wisdom that spanned both natural and spiritual reality; he testified, “Those who have **insight** [*into Triune-Agape*] will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness [*sacrificial self-giving*], like the **stars** forever and ever” (Dan. 12:3). From age seventeen, Daniel was repeatedly distinguished among his peers and served as the prime minister of the worldwide empires of several, consecutive Babylonian and Persian rulers who entrusted him with the governance of *all* their secular affairs. He openly acknowledged that the revelation of mysteries and wisdom he was able to provide did not originate from himself (see Dan. 2:30). The **Source** of Daniel’s wisdom was perpetually acknowledging and **reciprocating the true Love of the Trinity**: “Daniel continued kneeling on his knees **three times a day**, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously” (Dan. 6:10).

The knowledge that comes from *insight*

into “God is true [*Love*]” is all-inclusive—not just pertaining to religious or metaphysical (spiritual) things but including the natural and behavioral sciences: astronomy, physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, medicine, psychology, sociology, and even economics. **Insight** into this all-encompassing “truth” comes from **participating** in the relational, interpersonal “fullness” of Triune-Agape—the “Us” who created all things. Discoveries, innovations, and inventions in all aspects of this natural world would make quantum leaps forward if mankind simply understood and acknowledged that the Source of all *true* knowledge is **in-gen-uity**—the *gene-rous* nature of our Triune-Creator. Daniel added:

**Wisdom** [*Agape rationale*] and **power** [*fusion*] belong to God [*Trinity*]...It is He who **reveals** the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the **darkness** [*eros individualism, fission*], and the **light dwells with Him** [*Triune-‘Spectrum’ in one ‘Beam’*]. To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for You [*Three sacrificial Self-sharers*] have given me wisdom and power (Dan. 2:19-23).

### “The Truth” and “The Lie”

According to Paul, the Triune-God had a

most unusual plan to make Themselves known to mankind: “Our unrighteousness [*eros*] demonstrates the righteousness [*Agape*] of God.... Through **my lie** [*self-love*] **the truth** [*relational faithfulness*] **of God** abounded to His glory [*full revelation of the Triune-Holy*]” (Rom. 3:5-7). God’s **Reality**, *the truth of God*, is fully revealed as it invades, exposes, and expels the **unreality** of “the lie” within us.

“God is a sun” (Ps. 84:11)—three, sacrificial Self-giving Eternals in perpetual fusion—is best recognized shining in the darkness of individualism and fission. “God is Light” (1John 1:5)—a Spectrum of three Primaries moving together in one Beam—is seen most clearly piercing through an eclipse of self-magnification (i.e. Saul, Acts 26:13). “Holy, Holy, Holy” (Isa. 6:8; Rev. 4:8)—Sharers of the same, extreme Self-forsaking Love—are fully revealed as the Lamb (“God in Christ”) who feeds Himself into the mouths of the unholy, the living dead, zombies, as an ‘Antidote’ containing three, living and active ‘Ingredients.’ “God is true”—Father, Son, and Spirit fused in perfect, relational faithfulness—is best discerned and understood exposing “the lie” of self-worship. “God is Agape”—the **gen-uine Love** of the Trinity—is most cherished as it is unveiled and appraised in the presence of the counterfeit: self-love (*eros*).

Nothing prepares a man to see, acknowledge,

and worth-ship the *true* Triune-God of **Agape** quite like suffering the indifference, jealousy, and exploitation of those persons who are *supposed* to lay their lives down for him. In some unexpected test of self-denial, their ‘love’ for him is revealed as something grossly inferior to what he imagined—it is **eros**. It seems these bitter disappointments are timed to occur when he is most vulnerable, in circumstances of his extremity. The man’s agony deepens as he gradually realizes that he *himself* is also tyrannized by eros, plagued by the very same relational paralysis so obvious in others, and that he is also incapable of *true*, reciprocal Love. In relationships he believed to be ‘rock solid,’ cracks (fissures, fractures: fission) begin to appear and widen, which cannot be concealed or ignored.

As this **counterfeit love** in others repeatedly fails and forsakes him and as it causes him to marginalize and abuse those entrusted into his care, he is being prepared to despair of his own life and receive the Light of the knowledge of the *true* Love that God is. After committing adultery and murder, David repented saying, “**You desire truth in the innermost being** [*DNA*], and in the hidden part [*human spirit*] You will make me know wisdom [*Agape rationale*]” (Ps. 51:6). These agonizing discoveries of fissures in cherished, trusted relationships and their subsequent collapse, do not only pertain to romantic love. David also testified, “For my mother and my

father have **forsaken me**, but the Lord will take me up” (Ps. 27:10). In the aftermath of relational disaster, in that brokenness, we are made ready to encounter “God is true”—the unshakable Triune-Rock—and fuse into Him.

Paul wrote, “Let Agape be without **hypocrisy**” (Rom. 12:9). Eros is counterfeit love—Agape *with* hypocrisy. Eros is “**the lie**” (John 8:44): pretense, deception, allurements, and counterfeiting used to exploit relational trust for personal gain (self-gratification) and used to save our own life, our own autonomous ‘nucleus’ (self-preservation). Jude described mankind as “the ungodly [*un-Trinity-like*]...following after their own lusts [*self-gratification*]...flattering people [*pretense of love*] for the sake of gaining an advantage” (Jude 16). Since Agape and eros are both ‘love,’ it is very difficult for corrupt, inebriated human beings to distinguish between *gen-uine* Love and counterfeit love. “The **sacrifice** [*apparent gene-rosity*] of the wicked [*de-gene-rate man*] is an abomination [*“the lie”*: Agape *with* hypocrisy], how much more when he brings it **with evil intent!** [*hidden agenda, calculated payoff at another’s expense*]” (Prov. 21:27). John described how the hypocrisy of eros works:

If we **say** that we have fellowship with God [*reciprocal gene-rosity, perichoresis*], and yet walk in the **darkness** [*practice self-*

*indulgence as an individualist in fission*], we **lie** [*Agape with hypocrisy*] and do not **practice the truth** [*Trinity-like sacrificial self-giving*] (1John 1:6).

John repeatedly emphasized just how essential *true* Love is to know the Triune-God and participate together in Their kingdom: “Little children, let us not love [*lit. Agape*] with word or with tongue, but **in deed and truth** [*Agape without hypocrisy—uncorrupted by the lie*]” (1John 3:18). Through the prophet Hosea, God poured out the agony and frustration of His heart concerning His eros-infected people:

What shall I do with you, O Judah? For your loyalty [*lit. lovingkindness*] is like a morning cloud and like the dew which goes away early [“*clouds without water*” *Jude 12*]....For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, and in the **knowledge of God** [*Three “true” sacrificial Self-givers*] rather than burnt offerings [*offering animals in place of self-giving*]. But like Adam, they have transgressed the covenant [*fusion agreement*]; they have dealt treacherously against Me [*Agape with hypocrisy*]...they **deal falsely** [*pretense of generosity*] (Hosea 6:4-7).

“God is Agape” (1John 4:8) and God is uncreated; therefore, Agape is an eternal, *uncreated* Reality. Eros is also *not* a created reality; God did not create eros (self-love, sin). The question of the **origin of sin** is answered as we understand the reality of **freedom**. God is three *free* Individuals who *freely choose* Self-giving. Father, Son, and Spirit do not force One Another to Love: “For this reason Father loves Me [*Agape*], because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me [*by manipulation or coercion*], but I lay it down on **My own initiative** [*freely*” (John 10:17-18). The Triune-God loves freedom because *volitional* Self-giving from a *willing* spirit is precisely what makes Their Love “**true.**” In hope of reciprocal Agape with created beings, the Trinity granted this same freedom to Their entire creation including each, individual, created being (see Rom. 8:20-21). Moltmann explains:

**Fellowship** [*relational, inter-personal Oneness*] and **freedom** [*volitional self-giving*] are the human components for **knowledge of the truth**, the truth of God [*Father, Son, Spirit fused as one God*]. And the fellowship I mean here is the fellowship of mutual participation and unifying sympathy [*perichoresis*]. What is meant is the right to the **liberty** of one’s own personal conviction and one’s own **free assent**....

Theological systems exert **coercion** where free assent can be expected and given.... It is only in free dialogue that truth can be accepted for the only right and proper reason—namely that it **illuminates and convinces as the truth**....It brings about change [*re-gene-ration, fusion*] without exerting compulsion (Jürgen Moltmann, *The Trinity and the Kingdom*, xiii).

The archangel ‘Lucifer’ was the first to **abuse God’s gift of freedom** (see Gal. 5:13; 1Pet. 2:16). Forsaking “true,” *extraverted* Love (worth-ship) and falling into *introverted* Love (self-worth-ship); ‘Lucifer’ *twisted* Agape into eros and became “the father of **the lie** [*eros*]” (John 8:44). He is now called Satan or “Belial [*lit. Worthless*]” (2Cor. 6:15). Worthless is a hypocrite, a pretender, an imposter, and an envious usurper “who disguises himself as an angel of light” (2Cor. 11:14). Eros (self-love) is a willful **perversion** of uncreated Agape—a *counterfeit* love.

**Genuine:** from *genus*, its genetic root; native, belonging to the original stock, hence real; natural, true, pure; not spurious, false or adulterated.

**Counterfeit** (*verb*): to forge, to copy, or to imitate without authority or right, and with a view to deceive or defraud, by passing the

copy for that which is original and genuine; as to *counterfeit* coin, bank notes, a seal, a bond, a deed, the handwriting or signature of another, etc. To make a likeness or resemblance of anything with a view to defraud; to make or put on a resemblance, as to counterfeit the voice of another person; passing the false for the true; to feign, to dissemble, to carry on a fiction or deception. (*Adjective*): forged, fictitious, false, fabricated without right; hypocritical. (*Noun*): a cheat, a deceitful person, one who pretends to be what he is not, one who impersonates another, an imposter. In law, one who obtains money or goods by counterfeit letters or false tokens.

**Counterfeiter:** one who copies or imitates; one who assumes a false appearance (Noah Webster, *1828 American Dictionary of the English Language*).

God—Triune-Agape—is the **Genetic Root** of all things “true,” all things *gen-uine*. Adam and Eve were **gene-d** in the image and likeness of the Trinity, the “Us” (Gen. 1:26). The Triune-Spirit breathed into the man and woman a *gen-uine* seed of Their own fuse-able DNA designed to grow and mature within them. However, the deceiver enticed them to *abuse* the freedom of Agape and ‘buy into’ his own lie. The man and woman ‘sold,’ exchanged, and forfeited the *gen-uine* Love of

God within them for Worthless' **counterfeit**: self-love (eros).

For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks... but became fools and **exchanged** the glory of the **incorruptible God** [*Three sacrificial Self-givers in fusion*] for an image in the form of **corruptible man** [*self-indulgent 'takers' in fission*]...and **exchanged the truth of God** [*relational, inter-personal Agape*] **for a lie** [*lit. the lie; e.g. eros individualism*], and worshipped and served the **creature** [*self-worth-ship*] rather than the **Creator** [*the "Us"*] (Rom. 1:23-25).

The freedom and capacity for reciprocal, sacrificial self-giving with God and one another was *displaced* in human beings by the tyranny of self-love. "The first man, Adam" (1Cor. 15:45) and all his subsequent offspring became **de-generate** in eros: alive to self and therefore spiritually and relationally "dead" (Eph. 2:1)—**the living dead**. As Solomon dedicated the temple, he acknowledged this eros 'virus' that has infected all the offspring of Adam:

Whatever prayer or supplication is made by any man or by all Your people Israel, each knowing the affliction [*lit. Heb.*

*plague*] of his own heart [*de-gene-rate nature; hypocrisy; individualism; zombie-like behavior*], and spreading his hands toward this house [*in “true” surrender, genuine worth-ship*]; then hear in heaven Your dwelling place [*Triune-Solidarity*] and forgive (1Kings 8:38).

The eternal Son of God was incarnated as the real, flesh-and-blood Man Jesus—“the last [*second*] Adam” (1Cor. 15:45). The Son was sent to become human as God intended: alive to God and dead to self—**the dead living**. Jesus was tested in self-denial and proven in sacrificial Self-giving; therefore, He perfected in Himself the divine nature (fuse-able DNA) as a “true,” **genuine**, life-giving Man. “Jesus has been manifested to put away sin [*eros—the lie*] by the sacrifice of Himself [*Agape—the truth*]” (Heb. 9:26). In profound humility, this God-Man has extended to all mankind an unusual invitation:

He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life [*abides in the fusion of the Trinity*]....For My flesh is **true food** and My blood is **true drink** [*genuine, fuse-able DNA*]. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me [*the God-Man Nucleus*] and I in Him (John 6:54).

After Jesus perfected this *re-gene-rative* ‘Antidote’ in His own, new bloodline, the Holy Spirit was sent to administer and cultivate the “incorruptible seed” (1Pet. 1:23) of His *true*, fuse-able DNA within those willing to receive and follow Him—“Christ in you the hope of glory” (Col. 1:27). The unmistakable evidence that the *gen-uine* DNA of “God is Agape” and “God is true” is in us, that we are “born again [*lit. from above*]” (John 3:7), is self-sacrificial *gene-rosity*. This distinctive behavior of *gen-uine* sons and daughters of God—the capacity to receive and reciprocate Agape in severe tests of self-denial (tribulation)—is impossible to **counterfeit**. The source of this amazing plan of salvation is the *in-gen-uity* of our “true” Triune-Creator. Salvation is certainly the forgiveness of sins, justification, and sanctification (adoption), but ultimately salvation is “*re-gene-ration*” (Mt. 19:28, Titus 3:5). Jesus explained how our behavior is directly affected by our genetic nature:

For there is no **good** [*gene-rous*] **tree** which produces **bad** [*worthless*] **fruit**; nor on the other hand, a bad [*worthless, de-gene-rate*] tree which produces good [*gene-rous*] fruit. For each tree [*free individual*] is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from **thorns**, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush. For the **good**

**man** [*gen-uine sacrificial self-giver*] out of the **good treasure** of his heart [*Seed of “truth”–“Christ in you”: Agape without hypocrisy*] brings forth what is good [*generous, life-giving behavior*]; and the **evil man** [*taker*] out of the evil [*de-gene-rate, eros DNA*] brings forth what is evil [*Agape with hypocrisy*]; for his mouth speaks out of that [*“the lie”*] which fills his heart (Luke 6:43-45).

Bad fruit is the ‘yield’ of the *de-gene-rate* nature of “the father of the lie” maturing in human beings. Though this fruit often *looks* good, even religious and ‘spiritual.’ Its taproot is toxic. Jesus warned, “Beware of the **leaven** of the Pharisees which is **hypocrisy**. For there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known” (Luke 12:1-2). Jesus addressed the religious Jews:

If God were your Father, you would love [*lit. Agape*] Me, for I [*the gen-uine Son*] proceeded forth and have **come from God** [*the Genetic Root*], for I have not even come on My own initiative [*in self-will*], but He sent Me....You are **of your father the devil** [*false-father: imposter*], and you want to do the [*self-gratifying*] desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and **does not stand in**

**the truth** [*abide in Agape/fusion*] because there is **no truth** [*fuse-able DNA*] in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own **nature** [*de-gene-rate DNA*], for he is a liar and **the father of the lie** [*eros: Agape with hypocrisy*]. But because I speak **the truth** [*testify of the life I share in fusion with Father and Spirit in Agape*] you do not believe Me (John 8:42-45).

In this cosmic custody battle, the false-father cunningly works to *eclipse* the “true” Father by exploiting an individual’s relational injuries, reinforcing his **disillusionment**, moving him to retreat further into self and deeper into *the lie* that “true” Love simply does not exist. The more the man entertains and invests himself into that lie, the more he becomes the unwitting captive and apprentice of the deceiver—isolated in a fortified prison of self-consciousness and self-preservation and mentored in the art of hypocrisy as a master counterfeiter. Fusion is achieved by “faith working through Agape” (Gal. 5:6). Through “the lie,” Worthless damages a man’s ‘fuse-ability:’ his capacity to see and *believe into* “God is true” by reciprocal sacrificial self-giving. Paul wrote, “I have **forgiven** [*your hypocrisy, exploitation*] in the sight of Christ [*our Forerunner*] for your sake [*true generosity*], in order that Satan might not **outwit us**. For we are not unaware of his **schemes** [*fission*]”

(2Cor. 2:11). T. Austin Sparks reflected on the nature and implications of 'Worthless' schemes:

Perhaps one of the most *significant* things to any who are “not ignorant of **Satan’s devices**” is that there never has been a specially spiritual movement of God in the earth...but what Satan’s animosity thereto has been manifested along the line of **division**, schism, discord, separation, and a breaking down of fellowship [*nuclear fission*]. And how often has the real sting and stigma been **a feigning love** [*“the lie”: Agape with hypocrisy*] unbroken and preserved [*self-preservation*], when the divided parties should have no association with each other in the things of God. Love, let us again say emphatically, is incumbent upon the Lord’s people toward “all men,” whether of the “household” or otherwise (Gal. 6:10), but **fellowship** [*“true” fusion oneness*] is something more. It is the most spiritual things which suffer the greatest shocks in this matter, and again we say this carries its own **Satanic significance** (T. Austin Sparks, *God’s Reactions to Man’s Defections*, chap. 3).

In William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*, the pretentious, conniving character *Polonius* delivers

this famous line: “**To thine own self be true**” (Act 1, Scene 3). Polonius is an avid reader who constantly parrots the wisdom of others to maintain the illusion of being a wise and resourceful counselor to the king of Denmark. He spouts ‘truisms’ as a calculated means of preserving his appearance, position, and popularity in the court and to conceal his schemes for social advancement. In the same act and scene, another memorable line further reveals his self-serving, parasitic nature: “Neither a borrower nor a lender be.” Polonius typifies relational paralysis and stagnation: **the living dead**.

“To thine own self be true” has many contemporary paraphrases such as ‘*Just be yourself*’ and ‘*Believe in yourself*’ and ‘*First, you must learn to love yourself*.’ Jesus exposed this eros rationale by pointing out a few things. First, the very idea that it is possible for an individual to be “true” to self is “**the lie**” since eros actually involves **loving oneself to death**. Whether he is aware of it or not, the self-conscious, eros-driven man is gradually eating himself alive, feeding on his own flesh: “the mind set on the flesh is death” (Rom. 8:6-7). The light of the truth reveals that *loving* self is actually *hating* self: “He who **loves his life** [*eros individualism*] loses it, and he who **hates his life** in this world will keep it to life eternal” (John 12:25).

Second, the *natural* laws of astrophysics

(fusion) are based upon the *spiritual* nature of our Triune-Creator: an individual atom of hydrogen, with its own self-contained nucleus, either remains autonomous or is fused into others to produce light, photosynthesis, and life *for all*. Jesus said, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat** [*individual*] falls into the earth and **dies** [*loses his life*], it remains **alone** [*autonomous*]; but if it dies [*sacrificial self-giving*], it bears much **fruit** [*alive to others and therefore truly alive*” (John 12:24). Jesus added, “For whoever wishes to **save his life** [*self-preservation*] will lose it [*de-gene-rative fission decay*]; but whoever **loses his life** for My sake [*sacrificial self-giving into the God-Man Nucleus*] will find it [*fusion Oneness: life in the kingdom*” (Mt. 16:25).

Third, it is impossible to be “true” to God and self at the same time: “No one can serve two masters; for either he will **hate** the one [*disown the Nucleus: God in Christ*] and **love** the other [*his own independent life*], or he will be **devoted** to one [*forfeit himself into Jesus*] and **despise** the other [*hate his own life in this world*” (Mt. 6:24). Like Polonius, the self-indulgent individualist has nothing left over to give or lend to another, and though he may feel some remorse, his attempt to be “true” to himself inevitably leads to exploiting and injuring others and eating others alive, especially those closest to him.

C. S. Lewis observed, “From the moment a

creature becomes aware of God as God and of itself as self, the terrible alternative of **choosing God or self for the centre** [*nucleus*] is opened to it” (*The Problem of Pain*, p. 70). Jürgen Moltmann referred to this predicament of de-gene-rate humanity as “**the torment of choice.**” As an individual loses his life, choosing to *fuse* into the Nucleus of Christ, he is “rescued from the domain of darkness and transferred to the kingdom of the Son of Father’s Agape” (Col. 1:13). This relational, inter-personal realm, where all torment of choice has ceased and rest and peace abide, lies just **on the other side of the cross**. Life or death is a choice between self-giving love (Agape) and self-love (eros). If we do not embrace *God’s* gift and work of *re-gene-ration*, we corrupt, unholy human beings do not possess the ability to distinguish *gen-uine* from counterfeit love nor do we have the essential, *gene-rous* nature required to even make a choice—we are “slaves of sin” (John 8:34; Rom. 6:20).

### **Altruism and Egoism**

In secular terms, Agape and eros are defined as *altruism* (all-true-ism) and *egoism*. Consider this comparative definition from Wikipedia:

Altruism, or **selflessness**, is the principle or practice of concern for the welfare of others....Altruism or selflessness is the opposite of **selfishness**. Altruism can be distinguished from feelings of duty

and loyalty [*not an external 'law,' but an inward nature*]. Altruism is a motivation to provide something of value to a party who must be **anyone but one's self**, while duty focuses on a moral obligation towards a specific individual (e.g., a god, a king), or collective (e.g., a government). Pure altruism consists of **sacrificing** something for someone other than the self (e.g. sacrificing time, energy or possessions) **with no expectation of any compensation** or benefits [*eros payoff*], either direct, or indirect (e.g., receiving recognition for the act of giving).

Much debate exists as to whether “*true*” altruism is possible. The theory of psychological **egoism** suggests that no act of sharing, helping, or sacrificing can be described as truly altruistic, as the actor may receive an intrinsic reward in the form of **personal gratification** [*eros payoff*]. The validity of this argument depends on whether intrinsic rewards qualify as “benefits.” The term *altruism* may also refer to an ethical doctrine that claims that individuals are morally obliged to benefit others. Used in this sense, it usually contrasted to **egoism**, which is defined as **acting to the benefit of one's self** (Wikipedia).

The Son, Jesus, came to define and demonstrate the *all-true Love* which the Triune-God is: “Greater love has no one than this, that one [*individual*] lay down his life for his friends [*relational fusion*]” (John 15:13). Understanding what this all-true Love is, and learning how to receive it and reciprocate it, is essential to participating in the kingdom. The Son of God revealed the functional nature of Agape in and through David:

Sacrifice and meal offering You have not desired [*God is not a ‘taker’ interested in acquiring natural things*]; my ears You have opened [*lit. dug, pierced; to actively listen, eagerly wait for Your voice*]. Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required [*animals in proxy for my ‘self’*]. Then I said [*I know what You want:*], “**Behold, I come** [*I reciprocate Your sacrificial Self-giving with all my spirit, soul, and body*]; in the scroll of the book it is written of me, I delight to do Your will, O my God; Your law [*Agape, truth*] is within my heart” (Ps. 40:6-8).

The Triune-God **came** to us in a God-Man Nucleus, **giving “all the fullness”** of Themselves to us in Jesus. We *reciprocate* God’s all-true Love by **coming to give all** of ourselves to Them and fusing into that same Nucleus: “I urge you,

brethren, by the mercies [*gene-rous enablement*] of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God [*Three sacrificial Self-givers*], which is your spiritual service of worship” (Rom. 12:1). However, reciprocal self-giving is not merely a one-time gift, such as one makes of himself in response to an altar call on ‘the day he is saved;’ rather, “true” Love is **perpetual** self-giving and self-sharing—“**maintaining** the same Agape” (Phil. 2:2).

No matter what miserable circumstances of loss, agony, and humiliation may arise and persist to test an individual’s capacity to deny himself and sacrificially give himself for another, *gen-uine*, ‘all-true’ Love remains “**steadfast**” (Ex. 34:6; Ps. 51:10; 2Thes. 3:5). Solomon observed, “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity” (Prov. 17:17). Many of us can testify from personal experience that it is impossible for hypocrisy and true, sustainable peace to coexist in any group of individuals since “**fiery ordeals**” (1Pet. 4:12) inevitably come as a ‘**lie-detector test**’ to reveal the *gen-uineness* of those relationships. The Triune-God is the Source of this **always-true** Love (altruism) that *never fails*. Paul recognized the fruit-bearing yield: “God [*Father, Son, Spirit*] is not a God of **con-fusion** [*hypocritical Self-promoters/preservers*] but of **peace** [*“true” inter-Personal fusion by steadfast Love*]” (1Cor. 14:33).

“God is true [*Love*]” because “**God is faithful**”

(1Cor. 1:9): Father, Son, and Spirit not only *genuinely* and faithfully Agape One Another without hypocrisy and without limits but also Agape a world full of eros-driven ingrates:

In the generations gone by God permitted [*granted freedom to*] all the nations to go their own ways [*eros, fission, con-fusion, futility*]; and yet He [*God is true*] did not leave Himself without **witness**, in that **He did good** [*Agape*] **and gave** you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying [*lit. filling*] your hearts with food and gladness (Acts 14:16-17; see Luke 6:35).

Out of the superabundant “fullness” of Triune-Agape, God graciously feeds de-gene-rate ‘beasts.’ Paul described it this way: “**If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself** [*true Triune-Agape*]” (2Tim. 2:12-13). Fused in *always-true* Love, Father, Son, and Spirit cannot deny One Another, and therefore the Triune-God cannot deny Their covenant (fusion agreement) to faithless man.

God is not a man that He should **lie** [*speak or act with hypocrisy, pretense, or allurement*], nor a son of man [*de-gene-rate in eros heredity*], that He should repent; has He said [*promised*], and will He not

do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not **make it good** [*at His own expense*]? (Num. 23:19).

The **fusion power** of the Triune-God, by which “all things hold together” (Col. 1:17), is essentially Their always-true Love for One Another manifested and demonstrated as **relational faithfulness** (altruism) to us:

O Lord God, who is like You, O **mighty** Lord? [*Father, Son, Spirit: All-Three-Mighty*]  
Your **faithfulness** [*fusion power of Agape*]  
surrounds You. You rule the swelling of  
the sea [*of de-gene-rate humanity*]; when  
its waves rise [*in eros, fission, con-fusion*],  
You still them....[*God answers:*] “I will not  
break off My lovingkindness [*sacrificial  
Self-giving*]...nor deal falsely in My  
**faithfulness** [*Agape without hypocrisy*].  
My covenant [*fusion agreement*] I will not  
violate, nor will I alter the utterance of My  
lips” (Ps. 89:8-9, 33-34).

The Source of God’s omnipotent power is the *nuclear fusion* of “Holy, Holy, Holy:” the *will* of the Father, the *will* of the Son, and the *will* of the Spirit in **fusion agreement** in Agape to *do* Agape. In this fusion of will, as One, They *willingly* and sacrificially give Themselves to Their *unwilling*

creation, seeing through to fulfillment all of Their promises: “**He swears to His own hurt and does not change**” (Ps. 15:4). Again, the nature and quality of the Agape (altruism), which the three Eternals are and share, can only be understood and cherished by human beings as we recognize Their relational faithfulness to *faithless* mankind: “Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, because **He delights in unchanging love** [*incorruptible altruism*]” (Micah 7:18). Through Jeremiah, the Triune-God appealed to His corrupt, enslaved, and estranged people in jealous Love *for* them:

“**Return, O faithless sons,**” declares the Lord; “For I am a master to you, and I will take you one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion [*Our nest of relational rest*]....How I would set you among My sons and give you a pleasant land, the most beautiful **inheritance** of the nations! ...You shall call Me, My Father, and not turn away [*in fission*] from following Me. Surely, as a woman **treacherously departs from her lover**, so you have dealt treacherously with Me....Return, O faithless sons, **I will heal your faithlessness** [*re-gene-rate you in Our own DNA: always-true Love*].”

“Behold, **we come to You** [*in reciprocal self-giving*]; for You are the Lord our God” (Jer. 3:14-22).

This superabundant, faithful Love, which the Triune-God *is* and *gene-rates*, was poured out on *de-gene-rate* mankind as an ultimate demonstration of *the truth*: “God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses [*unfaithfulness*] against them” (2Cor. 5:19). In awesome, omnipotent **might**—“power perfected in weakness” (2Cor. 12:9)—God in Christ **remained faithful to the faithless**. This sacrificial Self-giving act of redemption, referred to as *The Passion*, was the fulfillment of an ancient promise Father, Son, and Spirit made to One Another *before* creation. Together, the Trinity *faithfully* carried the stewardship of this purpose, without hypocrisy, alteration, or forgetfulness, through all the *faithless*, rebellious generations of mankind and through the incarnation, birth, death, and resurrection of Immanuel. God awakened His prophet Isaiah to this Reality: “O Lord, You are my God; I will exalt You, I will give thanks to Your name; for You have worked wonders, plans formed long ago, with **perfect faithfulness** [*always-true Agape*]” (Isa. 25:1).

*Egoism*, the antithesis of *altruism*, is commonly referred to as **narcissism**. The Greek mythological figure *Narcissus* typifies self-love (*eros*). He

becomes so absorbed and captivated by his own reflection in a pool that he drowns ‘in himself.’ The name *Narcissus* is derived from a Greek word meaning **sleep numbness**. In self-absorption, we slumber in self-focus and remain *indifferent* to God and one another unless there is some calculated expectation of an immediate or future payoff. The fact that certain individuals have such an acute and obvious case of narcissism *obscures* the reality that each and every one of us was born into “the lie” as a narcissist. Some, however, *mature* in self-love and hypocrisy more rapidly than others and become more skilled in masking it.

Jesus described our de-gene-rate condition of *egoism* as “self-indulgence” (Mt. 23:25) and “drinking old wine” (Luke 5:39). Becoming increasingly intoxicated by self-absorption, we gradually **drown in the darkness of individualism**. In our inebriated condition, we are alive to self and dead to others—relationally paralyzed. It is not uncommon for those around an imploding individualist to be sucked down into the ‘black hole’ (vortex of fission) he has become. Jesus explained it this way:

But if your **eye is bad** [*self-focus*], your whole body [*DNA*] will be full of **darkness** [*eros individualism, “the lie”*]. If then the **light** [*spirit*] that is in you is **darkness** [*filled and corrupted with vain-glory, self-*

*worth-ship*], how great is the **darkness!**  
[*counterfeit love, Agape with hypocrisy, a  
black hole*] (Mt. 6:23).

The dichotomy between *eros* and *Agape*, and between *the lie* and *the truth*, and between *egoism* and *altruism*, comes into clearer focus as we carefully distinguish between ‘*individualism*’ and *individuality* and between *self-consciousness* and *self-unconsciousness*.

Father, Son, and Spirit are simultaneously and perpetually three *and* one. “God is true [*Love*]” because “God is Light [*Spectrum of Three in one Beam*], and in Him there is no darkness [*self-focus, individualism*] at all” (1John 1:5). As free Individuals, Father, Son, and Spirit focus upon and **celebrate One Another’s individuality and not His own**; therefore, the three Eternals move together as one, life-giving God by *all-true*, relational Love. Further, the members of the Trinity do not see Themselves as an end in Themselves; **God is an Extrovert**—a Triune-Groom entirely focused upon Their beloved, many-membered *bride*, always-true to ‘*her*’ and consciously pouring out upon ‘*her*’ the superabundant fullness of Their faithful, Self-forsaking Love and the life and peace it facilitates.

Agape is by nature so utterly **self-forgetful** and **self-sacrificial** that it may

well seem (from an ego-centric point of view) to involve the supreme irrationality of the destruction of the self as some critics have alleged that it does. But, in fact, **Agape means death, not of the self** [*individual*], **but of the self-centeredness** [*individualism: autonomous nucleus*], which is the deadliest enemy of **true self-hood** [*a true, fuse-able individual*]. Man realizes his **true self** just insofar as he lives by and in Agape [*relational, self-giving Oneness*] (Anders Nygren, *Agape and Eros*, p. 14).

Though Albert Einstein never acknowledged any direct correlation between atomic nuclear fusion and relational fusion between individual human beings, clearly his study of physics influenced his understanding of the human condition: “The **true value** of a human being is determined primarily by the measure and the sense in which he has attained to **liberation from the self**” (Einstein, published in *Mein Weltbild*, 1932). Just as an atom of hydrogen forfeits its own nucleus into fusion, an individual must “lose his life” into the Nucleus of Christ to “find it” (Mt. 16:25). Fusion is the fruit of *self-unconsciousness*; fission is the fruit of *self-consciousness*. Oswald Chambers explained:

God means us to live a **fully-orbed life in Christ Jesus** [*God-Man Nucleus*].... **Self-consciousness** is the first thing that will upset the completeness of the life in God [*fusion Oneness*].... Never allow the **dividing up** of your life in Christ [*fission*] to remain without facing it. Beware of leakage, of the dividing up of your life by the influence of friends or circumstances [*con-fusion*]; beware of anything that is going to **split up your oneness** [*fusion*] **with Him** and make you **see yourself separately** [*individualism*].... The great solution is the simple one—‘**Come unto Me**’ [*magnetism into the Nucleus*].... The complete life is the life of a child.... Wherever Jesus comes he establishes rest, the rest of the perfection of activity that is **never conscious of itself** [*“true” freedom*] (*My Utmost For His Highest*, Aug 19, 20).

Even as a Christian, the further you wander off into “the lie,” chasing a mirage of freedom and self-gratification in individualism, the more God-consciousness *regresses* into self-consciousness, and the darkness of fission prevails within you. However, the opposite is also true:

The spirit of childhood is the natural emblem of the Christian spirit.... It is

the very characteristic of the child-state—**self-unconsciousness**, trustfulness, guilelessness, conscientiousness, teachableness, obedience, faith, hope, love—which give to the little child **a peculiar aptitude for the kingdom of God** [*fuse-able DNA*].... The child-state is prerequisite to the heavenly (Boardman, *The Church*, p. 77).

Oswald Chambers provided us with a profound illumination of Jesus' words, "If any man come after Me, let him **deny himself**" (Mt. 16:24). To avoid misunderstanding, however, note that what I term '*individualism*' in the sense of self-worship, Chambers calls *individuality* in the negative sense; and what I term *individuality* in a positive sense, he calls *personality*.

**Individuality** is the husk of the personal life. Individuality is all elbows, it **separates and isolates** [*fission*].... If we mistake individuality [*individualism*] for the personal life [*true, God-given freedom as an individual*], we will remain isolated [*in an eros prison*]. The shell of individuality is God's created natural covering for the protection of the personal life; but individuality must go in order that the personal life may come out and be brought into fellowship [*fusion*] with

God. **Individuality** [*individualism*] **counterfeits personality as lust** [*eros: self-indulgence*] **counterfeits love** [*Agape: sacrificial self-giving*]. God designed human nature for Himself [*to fuse into the Trinity*]; individuality [*individualism*] debases human nature for itself [*eros*]. The characteristics of individuality are independence and **self-assertiveness** [*self-will, self-worth-ship*]. It is the continual assertion of individuality [*individualism*] that hinders our spiritual life [*fusion into the kingdom*] more than anything else.

If you say, ‘I cannot believe,’ it is because individuality [*“to thine own self be true”*] is in the road; individuality [*individualism*] can never believe [*e.g. that “God is true”*]. Personality [*the true, free, fuse-able individual*] cannot help believing. Watch yourself when the **Spirit of God** is at work [*i.e. pneumatic ram*]. He pushes you to the margins of your individuality, and you have either to say—“I will not,” or to surrender, to **break the husk of individuality** [*lose your autonomous life*] and let the personal [*fuse-able*] life emerge. The Holy Spirit narrows it down every time to one thing (see Mt. 5:23-24). The thing that will not be reconciled to your brother

is your individuality [*individualism*]. **God wants to bring you into union** [*fusion Oneness*] **with Himself**, but unless you are willing to give up your right to yourself [*autonomous nucleus*] He cannot. ‘Let him deny himself’—deny his independent right to himself, then the **real life** [*free, genuine, fuse-able individual*] has a chance to grow [*photosynthesis*] (Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost For His Highest*, Dec 11).

Altruism and the inter-personal fusion dynamic of relational faithfulness are further illumined by the term “*integrity*” (Ps. 15:2). Integrity means the *integration* of belief and practice: an individual’s moral principles and code of ethics are actually and truly reflected in his behavior without discrepancies or hypocrisy. A man of integrity is “found trustworthy” (1Cor. 4:2) because as tests/temptations confront him, he has learned to consistently set aside his own personal interests, forfeit opportunities for selfish gain, and deny himself for the sake of others. As these individuals come together, the *integrity* of each one facilitates the *relational integration* (fusion) of all the other *true*, fuse-able individuals into the Nucleus of the *true* God-Man Jesus.

As Christians, our *faith* in “God is true” requires more of a response than simply a static acknowledgement or confession of the reality of

God's true nature and acts. Faith in "God is faithful" (1Cor. 1:9) without *practicing* that faithfulness is neither *gen-uine* nor true: "faith without works is dead [*fruitless, hypocrisy, counterfeit*]" (James 2:26). Paul made clear the inseparable connection between *believing* and *relational faithfulness*:

What then? If some did not believe [*lit. Greek: were **unfaithful***], their unbelief [*unfaithfulness*] will not nullify the **faithfulness** [*always-true Love*] of God will it? May it never be! Rather, let God be found **true**, though every man be found a **liar** [*faithless, counterfeit lover*].... Our unrighteousness [*eros, self-love*] demonstrates the righteousness [*Agape, altruism*] of God....Through **my lie** [*hypocrisy, faithlessness*] **the truth** of God abounded to His glory (Rom. 3:3-7).

Even the most godly men of the Old Testament, such as Abraham, Moses, David, and Isaiah, who were conscious of the fusion Vortex of Triune-Agape powerfully drawing them, men who *knew* God and even reciprocated His Love in some measure, readily admitted they were 'fusion agreement violators' incapable of being *all-true* to God and faithfully keeping His covenant. They humbly acknowledged that the fuse-able nature of God (Agape DNA) was simply *not* in them. David

confessed, “I was brought forth in **iniquity** [*eros, “the lie”*], and in sin [*de-gene-rate heredity: egoism, individualism*] my mother conceived me. Behold, You desire **truth** [*altruism*] in the innermost being [*DNA*]” (Ps. 51:5-6). Isaiah cried out, “Woe is me, for I am ruined [*decaying in fission*]! Because I am a man of unclean lips [*e.g. I am infected with the lie*]” (Isa. 6:5).

In repentant grief over their faithlessness and fission and in the magnetism of the Spirit to fuse into the living God, these men of the ‘Old Testament’ eagerly looked *forward* to a ‘New (fusion) Testament.’ They threw themselves (and the obstinate, wayward people they advocated) upon the mercies of God and pressed forward in faith in the Triune-God of Agape who is, *in Himself*, the faithful Covenant-Keeper. The Vortex of “Holy, Holy, Holy” revealed to these men moved them to believe that God would find a sacrificial way to “**heal their faithlessness**” (Jer. 3:22). By faith, they received God’s promise (the Trinity’s own fusion agreement made before creation) to provide a **Savior**.

A major shift occurred in human history when the Trinity chose to *reveal* Themselves as “true” to Abraham (see Gen. 18:1-15) and to *share* with him Their “true” purpose for *de-gene-rate* mankind. “And Abraham **believed God** [*is true*], and it was reckoned to him as righteousness [*all-true Love*], and he was called the **friend of God**” (James 2:23;

Gen. 15:6; Gal. 3:6). By faith in “God is true,” Abraham became God’s *true* friend; therefore, God gave His *true* purpose to him as a **promise**. This meant that Abraham was invited to share in the **inheritance of carrying** this unfolding purpose of the demonstration of Agape to mankind as a fellow **steward** *with* God.

Abraham entered into this promised inheritance by *participating* with God in the work of Agape **by faith and faithful obedience**: “faith working through Agape” (Gal. 5:6). He *participated* in God’s own sacrificial self-giving Love by answering God’s call to leave his home country and *relocate* as an ‘emigrant’ to a land he had never seen, just as the Son purposed to *relocate* from heaven to earth. Only to a “true” friend was it possible for God to say, “Take now your son, **your only son**, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you” (Gen. 22:2). En route, “Abraham said [*to Isaac*], ‘God will provide for Himself a lamb for the burnt offering, my son.’ So the two of them walked on together [*emigrating to the kingdom*]” (Gen. 22:8). As Abraham raised the knife over Isaac in *faithful* Love to God, he was **participating**, by faith, in the Triune-God’s own “true” purpose: **sacrificial Son-giving Love**—Nucleus-giving Love (see John 3:16-21).

For when God made the **promise** to Abraham, since He could swear by no one greater, **He swore by Himself** [*Rock of Triune-Agape: Father, Son, Spirit always-true to One Another*].... And so, having patiently waited, Abraham obtained the **promise** [*e.g. mankind will enter and participate in the fusion of the Trinity*]. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as **confirmation** is an end of every dispute. In the same way, God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the **unchangeableness** of His purpose [*no fraud*], interposed with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things in which **it is impossible for God to lie** [*act contrary to true Triune-Agape*], we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us [*the kingdom of the Triune-God into which we are emigrating is not a mirage*]. This hope we have as an **anchor of the soul** [*freedom from the tyranny of our own self-will*], a hope both sure and steadfast [*not a counterfeit*] and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus [*the always-true Man*] has entered as a **forerunner** for us (Heb. 6:13-20).

## “Truth is in Jesus”

May the Lord direct your hearts into the Agape of God and into the **steadfastness** [*true, unchanging Love*] **of Christ** (2Thes. 3:5).

The promise of God to mankind includes redemption from “*the lie*”—salvation from the tyranny of our *de-gene-rate* nature of self-love, hypocrisy, and faithlessness, but the promise is much more. The **true gift**, which the Triune-God jealously desires for us to receive, is *Themselves*—the inheritance of *participating* in the fullness of Their all-true Love, a shared Life in *perichoresis*: mutual indwelling and interpenetration without loss of personal identity. Jesus testified, “Your Father has chosen gladly to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32). However, apart from a **Forerunner Man** who could reciprocate the all-true Love of God *on our behalf* and enter into the fusion of the Trinity as a Man *ahead of us*, we self-focused human beings could not even *imagine* the kingdom of God, much less receive and enter into this inheritance. Paul brought us good news:

For as many as are **the promises of God** [*superabundant Triune-Love*], **in Him** [*the incarnated Son, Jesus*] **they are yes** [*all-true, without hypocrisy, fulfilled*]; therefore also through Him [*our true Forerunner*] is

our Amen to the **glory of God through us** [*our ability to reciprocate true Triune-Love*]. Now He who establishes us with you **in Christ** [*individuals fused into one God-Man Nucleus*] and anointed us [*with fuse-able DNA*] is God, who also sealed us and gave us the **Spirit** in our hearts as a **pledge** [*lit. down payment; e.g. full re-generation, participation in the kingdom*] (2Cor. 1:20-22).

As Individuals, Father, Son, and Spirit are each “true” in Agape; therefore, the incarnated God-Man Jesus—the **Nucleus** of the Trinity—is true: “**truth is in Jesus**” (Eph. 4:21). True Love is sacrificial Self-giving; the Trinity purposed to give *all the fullness* of Their Triune-Love to us in a combined and combining God-Man:

For **all the fullness** of Deity [*Father, Son, Spirit*] was pleased to dwell in Christ [*the incarnated Son of God*], and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself [*into the Nucleus of the fusion of the Trinity*], having **made peace** [*conquering relational fission*] through the blood of His cross....For in Christ **all the fullness** of Deity dwells in bodily form [*dynamic life of “God is true” occurring within one Man*], and in Him [*fused into the God-Man Nucleus*] you have

been **made full** [*with true Triune-Love*]  
(Col. 1:19-20; 2:9-10).

The Son Jesus was tested in self-denial, perfected in sacrificial self-giving, and proven as a *gen-uine* (all-true) Man; therefore, He received *all the fullness* of “God is true” into His yielded spirit, soul, and body as the *Nucleus* of the relational Life of the Triune-God:

Now when all the people were baptized, **Jesus** was also baptized, and while He was praying, **heaven was opened** [*to the Son of Man and therefore to all mankind*], and the **Holy Spirit** descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a [*Father’s*] voice came out of heaven, “You are My beloved **Son**, in You [*the true Nucleus*] I am well-pleased [*to dwell*]” (Luke 3:21-22).

The Man Jesus was conscious that *the fullness of Deity* was dwelling in Him because of the unmistakable Presence and witness of the Father and the Spirit *within* Him: “**If I alone testify about Myself** [*autonomous self-revelation*], My testimony is **not true** [*self-promotion, “the lie”*]. There is another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony that He gives about Me is **true....Father** who sent Me, He has **testified of**

**Me**” (John 5:31-37). Jesus added, “The **Spirit** of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will **testify about Me**” (John 15:26). This testimony of Father and Spirit is not simply that the Man Jesus is the incarnated Son of God but that He is the chosen *Nucleus* and the comprehensive *Word* of the truth of the Triune-God:

And **the Word** became flesh [*embodiment of the fullness of “God is true”*], and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory [*fusion ‘yield’*], glory as of the only begotten from the Father, **full of grace and truth** [*gen-uine Agape in a God-Man*]....For of **His fullness** [*true Triune-Love*] we have all received [*gene-rously, Man to man*], and grace upon grace. For the Law was given through Moses; **grace and truth were realized** [*lit. came to be; e.g. among mankind*] **through Jesus Christ**. No one has seen God [*Triune-Spirit*] at any time; the only begotten God [*incarnated Son*] who is in the **bosom** of the Father [*Nucleus of the fusion of the Trinity*], **He has explained Him** (John 1:18).

This one, all-encompassing **Word** of truth was ‘delivered’ to us in bodily form on the earth: “Immanuel ...God with us” (Mt. 1:23). Truth is not static principles or Bible verses; truth is a

*dynamic*, living Person—the Nucleus of three Eternals alive to One Another in all-true Love and mutually indwelling One Another *within* Jesus: “**God in Christ**” (Rom. 6:11). Yes, words of truth come out of the mouth of Jesus: teachings, parables, interpretations, revelation of mysteries, universal laws, directives, etc., yet “truth is in Jesus” (Eph. 4:21) means infinitely more. Jesus’ true words and works were **signposts** pointing to the *living* Reality of “God is true” dwelling in fullness within Him—the dynamic Life of the Trinity abiding in perpetual fusion within His human spirit, soul, and body. The God-Man Jesus is the embodiment of the kingdom of “true” Love: “**the Agape of God** [*true Triune-Love*] **which is in** [*fused into*] **Christ Jesus our Lord** [*the God-Man Nucleus*]” (Rom. 8:39). John explained it this way:

In Him [*the God-Man Jesus*] was **life** [*the mutual indwelling of Three, all-true Eternals*] and the life was the **Light** of men [*captives of “the lie”*]. The **Light** [*Trinity in fusion in the Nucleus of Christ*] shines in the darkness [*Worthless’ world, fission*], and the **darkness** [*de-gene-rate individualists*] did not comprehend it (John 1:4-5).

In Agape rationale, also known as “the mind of Christ” (1Cor. 2:16), Jesus did not see Himself as a

mere *Individual*, but as the *Nucleus* of the Triune-God. In this multi-dimensional understanding of His own Person, “Jesus cried out and said, ‘**He who believes in Me** [*the Nucleus*], **does not believe in Me** [*an Individual*] **but in Him** [*the Triune-God*] **who sent Me**” (John 12:44). Jesus explained this true, Trinity-like thinking:

He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory [*eros individualism, the lie*]; but He who is **seeking the glory of the One** who sent Him, **He is true** [*gen-uine*], and there is no unrighteousness [*eros, self-worship*] in Him....When you lift up [*crucify*] the Son of Man, then you will know that **I AM** [*e.g. Nucleus of “I AM who I AM” Ex. 3:14*], and I do nothing on My own initiative [*autonomously*], but I speak these things as the Father taught Me. And **He who sent Me is with Me** [*fused as One in Agape*]; He has not left Me alone, for I [*the free Individual*] always do the things which are pleasing to Him (John 7:18; 8:28-29).

The nature of *the lie* manifests itself as egoism and individualism—self-actualization, self-revelation, and self-reference: “it is not glory [*counterfeit*] to search out one’s own glory” (Prov. 25:27). The Scriptures teach us to forsake this

counterfeit glory: “Let another praise you, and not your own mouth” (Prov. 27:2). **The sent One is true** because He did not come *as Himself for Himself*; rather Jesus carried “the One who sent Him” *within* Himself and sought to fully reveal the Sender and the Oneness They share. **The Sender is true** because He was entirely content for the sent One to be revealed and seen, to abide ‘unseen’ *within* the sent One as His chosen Nucleus and to contribute Himself to the fusion power of Their Oneness in gene-rosity to the world. It makes one wonder what would happen on the earth if we, as God’s kids, began thinking and moving together in this *true*, Trinity-like way? Jesus already answered that: “**Your kingdom come...on earth as it is in heaven**” (Mt. 6:10).

Remarkably, the Son fulfilled this commission to embody and reveal *true Triune-Love* not as ‘God’ but as a Man! As our Forerunner, Jesus became a *gen-uine*, Trinity-like Man by expending and investing all His freedom as an Individual into God; He called this being “**rich toward God**” (Luke 12:21). He made no claim to His right to Himself but willingly and consistently offered His human spirit, soul, and body as a temple (Nucleus) for the relational, inter-Personal cohabitation of the Triune-God. Jesus spent all the days and moments of His 33 years on the earth giving Himself *fully* to the Father and the Spirit in relational fusion, making room *within* Himself

for the superabundant *fullness* of the Triune-Life, and extravagantly **pouring that true fullness out of Himself upon captives of the lie**. In this way of *true* self-denial and self-giving, Jesus facilitated the kingdom of God *within* Himself on earth *exactly* as it is in heaven.

The Man Jesus lived by faith in the **altruism** of the Father and the Spirit; therefore, **counterfeit love** (“*To thine own self be true*”) had no allurement for Him. Since He knew *the truth of God*—Father and Spirit are *always-true* to Him—it was unnecessary for Jesus to attempt to be *true* to Himself. He did not need to promote or exploit the fact that He was “**the Son of God**” as Worthless tempted Him to do (see Mt. 4:3-6; 27:40). As “**the Son of Man**,” He reasoned, acted, and lived according to the same, true, Self-forsaking Love that He had known in eternity as One of the Trinity: “The Amen, **the faithful and true Witness** [*a firsthand Participant in Triune-Agape*], the Beginning [*Prototype and Source*] of the creation of God” (Rev. 3:14).

“The **God of glory** [*fusion Oneness*]” (Acts 7:2) chose for the superabundant ‘yield’ of *true* Triune-Love to shine *through* Jesus into the innermost being of Their alienated children **Man to man**: “In Your light [*Triune-Spectrum in one Beam*] we see light [*Reality*]” (Ps. 36:9). Jesus is the one Beam: “**I AM the Light** of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness

[*the lie, unreality*], but will have the Light of life [*participate in true Triune-Love*]” (John 8:12). *The lie* of eros individualism has captured and twisted the heart of every human being; we are alienated from God in *the darkness* of misplaced affections: self-love. God’s comprehensive *Word* of truth was designed to **penetrate** the armored hearts of self-preserving individualists and effect spiritual photosynthesis, *re-gene-ration*, and life:

For God [*Father, Son, Spirit: the “Us” Gen. 1:26*], who said, “**Light** shall shine out of **darkness**” [*fusion in the natural creation*], is the One who has **shone in our hearts** to give the Light of the knowledge of the **glory of God** [*Three fused in all-true Love*] in the face of **Christ** [*God-Man Nucleus*] (2Cor. 4:6).

In the course of magnifying “God is true” and developing this *Plumbline*, the Spirit broadened my understanding of how Triune-Agape *works* toward us by posing this question to me: Would it be possible for you to become a partaker and sharer in Our *true, gene-rous* nature as a faithful, *re-gene-rated* son, capable of freely reciprocating Our Love, unless We **first** afforded you opportunity in **freedom** to *willfully* choose and live in *the lie*; and **then** to demonstrate Our *all-true* Love for you by **sacrificially redeeming** you out of *the lie* at Our

own expense; and *then* having patiently waited for you to come to a working “knowledge of both good and evil” to provide you yet *another* opportunity in **freedom** to *willingly* and *sacrificially* choose to exchange your *lie* for Our *truth*?

The answer is, of course, *no*; apart from God’s **patient suffering** we could never have known or become willing sharers in the true Love of God in Christ. Evidently, God posed a similar question to Jürgen Moltmann who declared this truth, “**The crucified Christ is our sole means of access to the knowledge of God**” (*The Trinity and the Kingdom*, p. 40). We could not have *known* the quality and ‘quantity’ of this *always-true*, superabundant Love that Father, Son, and Spirit *are* and *share* unless it had been poured out upon us through a sacrificial Lamb who embraced the Cross for our sake.

The sole **omnipotence** which God possesses is the **almighty power of suffering love** [*fusion: power perfected in weakness*]. It is this that God reveals in Christ. What was Christ’s essential power? It was love [*Triune-Agape*], which was perfected through voluntary suffering [*true sacrificial Self-giving*]; it was love, which died in meekness and humility on the cross and so redeemed the world. This is **the essence of the divine sovereignty**.... What Christ, the incarnate God, did in

time, God does and must do in eternity. If Christ is weak and humble on earth [*sacrificial Lamb*], then God is weak and humble in heaven. For **‘the mystery of the cross’** is a mystery which lies at the center of God’s eternal being (C. E. Rolt, *The World’s Redemption*, p. 27).

I urge you, *do not miss* the essential **“truth of God”**—the *all-true* Love that the eternal Trinity is: a sacrificial Self-giving Love willing to patiently suffer *anything* for the sake of us, Their beloved, Their ‘other,’ Their many-membered bride. This Reality is *in Christ*: “truth is in Jesus” (Eph. 4:21).

**A God who cannot suffer cannot love either...**The living God is a loving God. The loving God shows that He is a living God [*Three alive to One Another and to us*] through His suffering [*God in Christ*].... The experience of **suffering reaches as far as love itself...**the suffering of love and the suffering of those who are loved....Anyone who loves cannot look on at the other person’s suffering any longer—he wants to overcome it [*self-sacrificially*]. So his love suffers with the sufferings of the other.... Suffering reaches as far as love itself, and **love** [*Agape*] **grows through the suffering**

**it experiences**—that is the signpost that points to **true life** (Moltmann, *The Trinity and the Kingdom*, p 38, 51-52).

The power of the **Cross** is the will of the Father, the will of the Son, and the will of the Spirit in ‘**fusion agreement**’ (covenant), not just to sacrifice Themselves *individually* but **to sacrifice Their Oneness** by ‘Son-giving’ Love—**Nucleus-giving Love**. “Jesus cried out with a loud voice, ‘My God [*Father*], My God [*Spirit*], why have You forsaken Me [*the Son*]?’” (Mt. 27:46). The Nucleus of the Trinity’s *fullness* (Oneness) was torn open on the Cross, yet even while suffering estrangement and fission from One Another the Three had never been more *One*. They were fulfilling Their eternal purpose to **sacrificially open Themselves to us!**

*First*, the Trinity revealed Their all-true Love by accommodating Themselves to mankind in a Man—choosing to dwell in a Human Nucleus suitable for cohabitation with us. *Then*, the Triune-God demonstrated Their all-true Love by **intentionally tearing open Their Nucleus** that we might enter into Them “by a **new and living way** which Jesus inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh” (Heb. 10:20). The Cross was all-true Love perfected and therefore Oneness perfected—the full disclosure and demonstration of who They are as *true sacrificial Self-sharers!*

As the time of His crucifixion was approaching, Jesus said:

Now is the **Son of Man** [*Advocate of all mankind*] **glorified**, and **God is glorified in Him** [*Trinity fused into the God-Man Nucleus*]; if God is glorified in Him [*true Triune-Love perfected in this Man*], God will also **glorify Him in Himself** [*fuse mankind into the Nucleus of the Trinity*], and will glorify Him **immediately** (John 13:31-32).

Jesus told us plainly, “I AM the door” (John 10:9); **the Cross immediately opened the door** to all mankind to be fused into the Oneness of the Trinity—the kingdom of God. The crucified, resurrected, and ascended Son Jesus “is the Beginning [*of a new, re-gene-rated race of mankind*], the firstborn from the dead” (Col. 1:18). He says, “Behold, **I AM making all things new** [*fuse-able*]. . . . Write, for these words are **faithful and true**. . . . It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end [*Prototype and Perfecter of mankind*]” (Rev. 21:5). Paul helps us to understand the significance of *Christ crucified* on knowledge, wisdom, and *true Reality*:

For the **word of the cross** [*volitional sacrificial self-giving*] is **foolishness**

to those who are perishing [*in self-preservation*], but to those who are being saved [*losing their lives*] it is **the** [*fusion*] **power of God**. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom [*eros rationale*] of the wise, and the cleverness [*deceit, hypocrisy*] of the clever I will set aside.” Where is the wise man? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the **wisdom of God** [*Agape rationale*] the world through its wisdom [*eros rationale*] did not come to **know God** [*true Triune-Love*], God was well-pleased through the **foolishness of the message preached** [e.g. “*he who loses his life for My sake will find it*”] to save those who believe [*in the all-true Love of God in Christ*].

For indeed Jews ask for signs [*proof*] and Greeks search for wisdom [*ways to actualize and preserve ‘me’*]; but we preach **Christ crucified** [*ultimate Reality*], to Jews a stumbling block and to Greeks foolishness, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God** [*Nucleus of fusion*] **and the wisdom of God** [*Nucleus of true Triune-Love*]. Because the **foolishness of God** [*extreme Self-forsaking Love*] is wiser than

men, and the **weakness of God** [*Lamb: nuclear reactor core*] is stronger than men....But **by His doing** [*true, suffering Love*] **you are in Christ Jesus** [*fused into the God-Man Nucleus*] (1Cor. 1:18-25, 29).

### **God's Choice of me is Special**

Jesus said, “**You did not choose Me but I chose you**, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit [*reciprocate My generosity*], and that your fruit would remain [*steadfast Love*]” (John 15:16). All the distinctive manifestations of eros, such as **egoism**, individualism, self-consciousness, self-importance, etc., have a frightening way of adapting or *morphing* into our persona and life as a believer in Christ. This is the **deadliest form of hypocrisy** because the immature, self-focused child of God bears Jesus’ name, yet he remains effectually eclipsed from the light and the life of the kingdom and acts accordingly. Recently, a dear friend and I were reflecting on what God is teaching us about the deceptive power of eros and he confessed, “When I first became a believer, I thought God was getting a good deal when He got me. I thought I was a ‘**turn-key**’ **Christian**, that I was move-in ready.”

To continue to discover, enter, and participate in the kingdom, you must maintain the **self-unconsciousness** of a little child *never* forgetting

that “we love because He first loved us” (1John 4:19). When a man is humbled and he awakens from the unreality of individualism, he recognizes and confesses **the truth**: it is not *me* that is special; it is God’s *choice* of me that is special. John knew this truth: “In this is Agape, **not that we loved God, but that He loved us** and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins [*redemption from self-love*]” (1John 4:10). It is the Love of “God in Christ” *for* you that is special, *not you*. You are special and precious to the Triune-God *because* of Their Love set upon you.

As a disciple, Peter spoke and behaved with shameless egoism in the *unreality* of self-confidence, that is, until the “rooster crowed,” and he was effectively emptied (Mt. 26:75). However, after Jesus restored and transformed Peter he said, “Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to **make certain** [*know the truth*] **about His calling and choosing you**” (2Pet. 1:10). In reality, you have not laid hold of Christ, He has laid hold of you, and He is “able to keep you...and make you stand” (Jude 24). Your *acknowledgment* of this truth is the very **bedrock of your faith**, and when storms and floods come it certainly helps if there are no ‘fissures’ of self-confidence (*eros*) in it!

**God chose us in Christ** before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless [*eros-free*] before

Him. In Agape, He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, **to the praise of the glory of His grace** [*God's choice of you is special*], which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved (Eph. 1:4-6).

The 'life-lab' which effectively opened this truth to me has been receiving, on Father's behalf, twenty-four children from Ukraine and Uganda out of orphanages, refugee camps, and slums. On each occasion, the Spirit clearly indicated which child I was to receive by **Father's sovereign choice** and confirmed it by miraculous circumstances; nevertheless, each of these *de-gene-rate* children, to varying degrees, automatically assumed he was chosen out of thousands because *he* is special. The Lord soon revealed "**the lie**" in this rationale by the toxic fruit that it bore: thinking they are **inherently special** has caused each boy and girl to behave with ingratitude, over-familiarity, self-centered indifference, and relational paralysis. This sovereign life-lab has afforded me opportunity to recognize egoism and narcissism at work not only in the children entrusted to me but also in *myself*! Now we teach our children to focus upon **the truth**: it is God's *choice* of them that is special, *to the praise of the glory of His grace*!

For consider your calling brothers, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but **God has chosen the foolish** things of the world to shame the wise [*in eros rationale*], and God has chosen **the weak** things of the world to shame the things which are strong [*in self-will*], and **the base** things of the world, and **the despised** God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that **no man may boast before God** [*i.e. I am special*]. **But by His doing** [*true, suffering Love*] **you are in Christ Jesus** [*fused into the God-Man Nucleus*], who became to us **wisdom** from God [*embodiment of God is true*], and righteousness [*fuse-able DNA*] and sanctification [*from eros individualism*], and redemption [*from "the lie"*], so that, as it is written, "**Let him who boasts boast in the Lord** [*the true Love of "God in Christ" for me is special*]" (1Cor. 1:26-31).

To help us awaken from the unreality of 'Christian' egoism and radically shift our focus *off* ourselves, Moltmann provides a marvelous understanding of *how* the Triune-God chose us:

**Love** [*Agape*] **does not permit the lover to rest in himself** [*in autonomy*]. It draws him out of himself, so that he may be **entirely in the beloved** [*fusion Oneness*]. It is in accordance with the love which is God that He should fashion a **creation** which He rejoices over, and **call to life His Other, man, as His image**, who responds to Him [*reciprocates God's sacrificial Self-giving*]. Not to do this would contradict the love which God is. In the love which God is [*Triune-Agape*] already lies the **energy** [*fusion Power*] which leads God out of Himself—and in that energy the longing [*jealousy-for us*]. . . . If God is love, then He neither will nor can be without the one who is His beloved [*us!*].

Creative and suffering love has always been a part of His love's eternal nature. The **creation** of the world is a moment of the deepest **mystery** in the relation between God the Father and God the Son. Creation is a part of the **eternal love affair** between the Father and the Son. It springs from the Father's love for the Son and is redeemed by the answering love of the Son for the Father. Creation exists because **the eternal love communicates Himself creatively to His Other** [*human beings*].

*fused into the God-Man Jesus, the combined and combining Person*]. Creation exists because the eternal love seeks fellowship [*perichoresis*] and desires response [*reciprocity*] in freedom (Moltmann, *The Trinity and the Kingdom*, p. 58).

The unmerited **grace of God** afforded to mankind is the superabundant *gracefulness* of the harmonious Trinity poured out as extravagant *graciousness* and mercy upon us as human beings. The **providence of God** is the superabundant *gene-rosity* of Father, Son, and Spirit toward One Another lavished upon de-gene-rate human beings in limitless giving and forgiving. The **compassion of God** is the superabundant, *passionate affection* of the Three toward One Another burning toward mankind as “lovingkindness.” The Three are **slow to anger** with us for the sake of the Agape They share as One. Now *that* is special! Paul taught us what the gospel of our salvation *truly* is:

The **word of truth**, the gospel which has come to you [*seed of fuse-able DNA*], just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also [*re-gene-ration*] since the day you heard of it and **understood** [*lit. came really to know*] **the grace of God in truth** (Col. 1:5-6).

This truth became the bedrock of Paul's own *self-understanding*: "I am a nobody" (2Cor. 12:11). He added, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. So then, neither the one who plants, nor the one who waters is **anything** [*special*], but God who causes the growth" (1Cor. 3:6-7). Paul taught us how we are to see ourselves: "a remnant according to **God's gracious choice**. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works [*i.e. I am a special 'asset' to God*], otherwise grace is no longer grace [*true, unmerited Love*]" (Rom. 11:5-6). As our Savior, the Man Jesus acted according to this truth:

Christ has become a **servant** [*sacrificially gives Himself*] to the circumcision [*Jews*] on behalf of **the truth of God** [*true Triune-Love*] to confirm [*fulfill*] the **promises** given to the fathers [*Abraham, etc.*], and for the Gentiles to **glorify God for His mercy** [*God's merciful choice of us is special*] (Rom. 15:8-9).

Out of the *true* Love that Father, Son, and Spirit share with One Another, They are *faithful* to Their promise to Abraham to sacrificially receive his *faithless*, unworthy offspring into Themselves. Further, the superabundant Love *within* the Triune-God is sacrificially poured out as mercy "to all creation" (Mark 16:15). Therefore, neither

Jew nor Gentile is *inherently* special; it is the magnanimous Love of God revealed in faithfulness and mercy that is special. Never lose sight of this *true* Reality!

### “The Truth of Christ is in me”

In this *Plumblines* so far, we have magnified “**God is true**” (John 3:33) and discovered the all-true Love (Agape, altruism) that Father, Son, and Spirit *are* and share. We have also understood the Triune-God desires for us to become partakers of this fuse-able nature. When David repented for his unfaithfulness—acting in *the lie* and *hypocrisy* of eros—he acknowledged his desperate need for a **DNA-transplant**: “You desire **truth** [*Your own sacrificial Self-giving nature*] **in the innermost being** [*DNA*]” (Ps. 51:6). Further, we have seen how God’s faithful, *always-true* Love was tested and perfected in the incarnated Son of God as a Man. Paul explains what “**truth is in Jesus**” means for us:

Walk no longer just as the Gentiles [*the living dead*] also walk, in the **futility of their mind** [*eros rationale: individualism—the lie*], being darkened in their understanding, **excluded** [*in fission*] **from the life of God** [*relational, inter-personal fusion—mutual indwelling*] because of the **ignorance** [*unreality*] that is in them,

because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over [*in self-will*] to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness [*self-indulgence*].

But you did not **learn Christ** in this way, if indeed you have heard Him, and have been taught in Him, just as **truth is in Jesus** [*embodiment of true Triune-Love*], that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the **old self** [*de-generate, faithless individualist*], which is being **corrupted** in accordance with the lusts of **deceit** [*the lie: Agape with hypocrisy*], and that you be **renewed in the spirit of your mind** [*Trinity-like rationale-truth*], and put on the **new self** [*re-gene-rated, fuse-able individual*], which in the likeness of God [*Three sacrificial Self-givers*] has been **created** [*tested, perfected, proven in the Man Jesus*] in righteousness and holiness of **the truth** (Eph. 4:17-24).

As de-gene-rate individualists (zombies), we human beings could not *know* true Triune-Love or *receive* true Love, much less *reciprocate* true Love, until God's own fuse-able nature was made adaptable and **communicable** to us in the Man Jesus. Paul was transformed by *exposure* to

“the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God [*true Triune-Agape*] in the face of Christ [*the God-Man Nucleus*]” (2Cor. 4:6); therefore, both his words and his behavior testified: “**the truth of Christ** [*gen-uine, fuse-able DNA*] **is in me**” (2Cor. 11:10).

Jesus is the all-inclusive **seed** of true Triune-Love—“God in Christ”—planted and cultivated in us by the Holy Spirit. From the beginning, Father, Son, and Spirit have desired for human beings **not just to discover truth but to become truth**: “Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our [*sacrificial Self-giving*] image, according to Our [*true, fuse-able*] likeness” (Gen. 1:26). The one and only Man “**made perfect**” (Heb. 5:9) in God’s *true* image and likeness is the incarnated Son Jesus. As a de-gene-rate individualist (sinner), if you recognize the *gen-uine* Man as *true* and believe in Him, you must daily act on that faith by making an **exchange—buying into** the *new self* He has prepared for you at the **cost** of laying aside your *old self*: “he who loses his life for My sake will find it” (Mt. 16:25). The one who consistently makes this exchange will “become **conformed** [*lit. Greek: summorphos; e.g. morphed*] to the image of God’s Son” (Rom. 8:29). Peter explained how we exchange our *lie* for God’s *truth*:

Putting aside all malice and all deceit  
and hypocrisy and envy and all slander

[*manifestations of the lie; zombie-like instinct and behavior—the old self*] like **newborn babies** [*lit. argenetos brephos: newly 'gened' infant; e.g. born of fuse-able DNA*] long for the pure milk of the word [*antidotal nourishment—eating Jesus: “My flesh is true food...My blood is true drink” John 6:55*] so that by it you may **grow** in respect to salvation [*re-gene-rate in Trinity-likeness*], if you have tasted the kindness [*all-true Love*] of the Lord (1Pet. 2:1-3).

Father, Son, and Spirit work together to plant, nourish, and cultivate the “**incorruptible seed**” (1Pet. 1:23) of Their own fuse-able DNA that is “**Christ** [*the perfected Man*] **in you**, the hope of glory [*fusion Oneness in the Triune-God*]” (Col. 1:27). First, Father sent the Son to *become* the seed, which He did as a Man “in the power of the Spirit” (Luke 4:14). Then Father and the resurrected, ascended Son sent the Spirit to *plant* the seed of Their all-true Love within us and make it *grow* by spiritual **photosynthesis**—exposure to the Light of Triune-Agape through the Spirit indwelling each of us. The Spirit has come to “guide us into all the truth [*fullness of true Triune-Love*]” (John 16:13). As the seed of this *generous*, all-true nature **matures** in us, we enter and participate “from faith to faith” (Rom. 1:17) and “from glory to glory” (2Cor. 3:18) in the quality

of relational life of **the kingdom**, which has been eclipsed and lost to mankind. Jesus prayed:

That they may all be **one** [*fused*], even as You Father are **in** Me and I **in** You, that they may be **in** [*fused into*] **Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me [*true Triune-Love is in Jesus*]. The **glory** which You have given Me [*fuse-able DNA perfected in a Man*] I have given to them [*adapted to mankind as an incorruptible seed*], that they may be **one** just as We are **one**; I **in** them and You **in** Me [*the God-Man Nucleus*], that they may be **perfected as one**.... That the **love** [*lit. Agape; e.g. all-true, fuse-able DNA*] with which You have loved Me may be **in** them and I **in** them” (John 17:21-26).

Opportunity to receive *the seed* comes by hearing and responding to “**the message of truth**, the gospel of your salvation [*from the lie*” (Eph. 1:13). Jesus said, “For this I have come into the world, to testify to the truth [*Triune-Agape*]. Everyone who is **of the truth** [*re-gene-rating in Our fuse-able DNA*] **hears My voice**” (John 18:37). Like Abraham, we receive the seed of God’s nature by hearing and responding in faith—*believing into* the Nucleus of “God is true.” Paul described it this way: “That you may be **joined** [*fused*] **to Him**

who was raised from the dead, in order that we might **bear fruit for God** [*gene-rously reciprocate all-true Love*]” (Rom. 7:4). Jesus made very clear that **integrity**—*walking in truth*—is the fruit of remaining **integrated** (fused) into Him:

**Abide in Me, and I in you.** As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself [*autonomously*] unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me [*in perpetual fusion by reciprocating My always-true Love*]. I AM the vine [*Nucleus of Triune-Agape*], you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, **he bears much fruit** [*true, reciprocal gene-rosity*] for apart from Me you can do nothing (John 15:4-5).

Since “truth is in Jesus,” when you are fused into this God-Man and He is dwelling within you through the Spirit, you are made capable of **reciprocating** the all-true Love of the Trinity and *participating* in the kingdom of God: “Grace be with all those who love [*lit. Agape*] our Lord Jesus Christ with **incorruptible love** [*Agape without hypocrisy*]” (Eph. 6:24). It is wonderful to know that God in Christ has made it possible for *faithless* sons and daughters like you and me to *actually* love in Their own *true* way! Our ability to be *faithful and true* comes from **believing** in the true Triune-Love poured out on us in Jesus, **receiving** that *fullness* within ourselves by allowing the seed to

grow and *displace* the old self, and **reciprocating** that *gen-uine* Love by **abiding** in fusion with God in the Nucleus of the God-Man Jesus.

The true Triune-Love of “God in Christ” must not only ‘register’ in your mind but also in your heart (affections) and soul (will) and down into the innermost recesses of your human spirit. Opening wide to the Lord in stretched-out prayer or allowing the Spirit to captivate you in the song of the Lord, allows the seed of Triune-Agape to penetrate and occupy the very core of your being with something like ‘*I know that I know.*’ Paul described this *knowing* as “**full conviction**” (1Thes. 1:5; see also Heb. 11:1). It seems our understanding of *faith* is very inadequate and anemic. God considers *faith* to be an *unshakable* core-conviction of “the Agape of God which is in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 8:39) that bears bountiful, Trinity-like fruit in and through us—*gene-rous*, sacrificial self-giving behavior both God-ward and man-ward. John showed us how the seed germinates and grows:

Beloved, let us **love** [*lit. Greek: Agape*] one another, for **Agape is from God** [*three, all-true Eternals: the Genetic Root*]; and everyone who loves [*manifests true sacrificial self-giving*] is **born of God** [*re-gene-rated as a fuse-able DNA-match*] and **knows God** [*awakens to true Reality*]. The

one who does not love [*eros individualist; captive of self-love*] does not know God, for **God is Agape** [*Three all-true Lovers in fusion*]. By this **the Agape of God** [*fuse-able DNA*] **was manifested in us** [*seed of re-gene-ration*], that God has sent His only begotten **Son** [*Nucleus of "God is true"*] into the world [*corrupt in "the lie"*] so that we might **live through Him** [*participate in true Triune-Love*].

In this is Agape, not that we loved God [*we are not special*], but that He loved us [*God's choice of us is special*] and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins [*redemption from the lie-self-worth-ship*]. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to **Agape one another** [*"be imitators of God...walk in Agape" Eph. 5:1*]. No one has seen God [*Triune-Spirit*] at any time; if we Agape one another [*practice true sacrificial self-giving*], God abides in us [*in fusion*], and **His Agape** [*fuse-able DNA*] **is perfected in us** [*full re-gene-ration*]. We have come to know and have believed the Agape which God has for us [*awakened to true Reality*]. God is Agape, and the one [*individual*] who **abides in Agape** [*reciprocates true, self-giving Love*] abides in God, and God abides in him [*fusion Oneness*] (1John 4:7-16).

Practicing *the truth* involves magnifying and **imitating** our Triune-God (true worth-ship). David prayed, “Teach me **Your way**, O Lord [*Self-giving without hypocrisy*]; I will walk in **Your truth** [*true, Trinity-like Love*]” (Ps. 86:11). The Triune-God answered David’s prayer by coming *Themselves* in the Nucleus of Jesus: “I AM the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6). Jesus made clear *how* the seed of this life grows within us: “He who **practices the truth** [*all-true Love*] comes to the Light [*continually magnetized into the Nucleus*], so that his deeds may be manifested as having been **wrought in God** [*born of the Genetic Root, acting from gen-uine DNA*]” (John 3:21). Jesus added:

If you **continue in My word** [*practicing true Triune-Love, emigrating into the kingdom*], then you are **truly** [*gen-uinely*] **disciples** of Mine; and you will **know the truth** [*Reality: abundant life is relational, inter-personal fusion by sacrificial self-giving Love*], and **the truth will make you free** [*from the lie: tyranny of self-love*]....If the Son [*all-true Man–‘Antidote’*] makes you free, you will be free indeed [*to fully participate in the fullness of the kingdom*] (John 8:31-36).

In one sentence, Paul put together for us the *Prototype*, the *activity*, and the *Model* of our

**practice**, a verse which I consider to be our foremost mandate as believers:

**Be imitators of God** [*an “Us” fused as One in the Nucleus of the God-Man*] **as beloved children** [*an ‘us’ fused as one in the Nucleus of the God-Man*], **and walk in Agape** [*sacrificial self-giving DNA and behavior*] **just as Jesus** [*our true Forerunner*] **loved you and gave Himself up for us** [*to perfect all-true Love in Himself as a Man and make that fuse-able DNA communicable to us*] (Eph. 5:1).

As God’s adopted children, clearly we are still *half-formed*; we are recovering eros addicts. Left to ourselves, we would be incapable of even *practicing* the truth; therefore, Father and Son sent “the Helper...the Spirit of truth” (John 15:26) to **coach** us in this daily practice. As wayward, faithless kids, it is necessary for us to “**obey the truth**” (Rom. 2:8), especially in difficult and costly life-labs assigned to teach us to be *all-true* to one another. Having denied Jesus three times in the life-lab, Peter came to know something about this:

Since you have in **obedience to the truth** [*actively losing your life into the Nucleus*] purified your souls [*of eros individualism*], for a **sincere Agape** of the brothers

[*sacrificial self-giving without hypocrisy*], **fervently Agape one another** from the heart [*affectionate jealousy-for*], for you have been **born again** [*lit. Greek: anagennao; e.g. re-gene-d*] not of **seed** which is corruptible [*fissionable*] but incorruptible [*gen-uinely fuse-able*], that is through the living and enduring word of God [*tested, unshakable God-Man Jesus*] (1Pet. 1:22-23).

The Scriptures describe our participation together in the relational, inter-personal, **fusion** dynamic of mutual indwelling in various other ways: “**joined to Him** who was raised from the dead” (Rom. 7:4); “**knit** together in Agape [*true sacrificial self-giving*]” (Col. 2:2; 1Sam. 18:1); “being **fitted** together...**built** together” (Eph. 2:20-22). The seed *matures* in us as individuals as we imitate Father, Son, and Spirit: “Do nothing from selfishness or **empty conceit** [*Worthless’ self-love, individualism*], but with **humility of mind** [*Agape rationale*] regard one another as **more important** than yourselves [*Trinity-likeness*]” (Phil. 2:3).

The more we magnify God and discover the mystery of *The Fusion of the Trinity*, the more evident it becomes that we believers talk far too much about ourselves—what is wrong with the body of Christ, what we are going to ‘do’ about the church, who has succeeded and failed, how we have failed and what we are doing right and

wrong, etc. Can we recognize that the *self-focused* ‘we’ is just another form of ‘me?’ Our hours of conversation, **speculation**, and brain-storming in conferences, elders meetings, around supper tables, etc., are not just futile but counter-productive because of our **ignorance**—our knowledge of the Triune-Holy is so grossly deficient. We talk about actively building, yet **we have not seen, much less studied ‘the blueprints’** of the relational, inter-personal ‘infrastructure’ of the kingdom of the Triune-God.

If we would intentionally shift our focus *off* ourselves and as little children, magnify “**the Light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ” (2Cor. 4:6), the effect of **photosynthesis** would itself cause us to “**grow** into a holy [*eros-free*] temple in the Lord...**built together into one dwelling of God in the Spirit**” (Eph. 2:21-22). It is my conviction that faithfully magnifying *God in Christ* together in *gen-uine*, self-forsaking worth-ship will cause the Light of true Triune-Love to radically transform ‘us’ into the image and likeness of the “Us” of our genesis (Gen. 1:26). John shared this conviction:

By this we know that we have come to **know Him** [*epicenter of Reality—Nucleus of “God is true”*], if we keep His commandments [*practice faithful, self-giving Love*]. The one who says, “I have come to know Him,”

and does not keep His commandments, is a **liar** [*hypocrite; counterfeit lover; captive of “the lie”*], and the **truth** [*Agape*] is not in Him; but whoever keeps His word [*“Follow Me” and “lose your life” into Me*], **in him the Agape of God** [*fuse-able DNA*] **has truly been perfected** [*re-gene-rated; true Love fully reciprocated*].

By this we know that we are **in Him** [*fused, integrated*]: the one who says he abides in Him ought to **walk in the same manner** [*sacrificial self-giving without hypocrisy; integrity*] in which He [*our true Forerunner*] walked...the **true Light** is already shining [*God in Christ piercing our eclipse*]. The one who says he is in the Light [*fused into Triune-Agape*] and yet **hates his brother** [*acts in eros, fission*] **is in the darkness** [*“the lie”: Agape with hypocrisy*] until now. The one who **loves his brother** [*with always-true self-giving Love*] **abides in the Light** and there is no cause for stumbling in him [*made fit for God’s vulnerable nest of relational rest—the kingdom*]. But the one who hates his brother is in the darkness and **walks in the darkness** [*eclipse*], and does not know where he is going [*cannot find ‘true North’*] because **the darkness** [*self-love*] **has blinded his eyes** (1John 2:3-11).

One of the most profound examples of how *the lie* (egoism) and *the truth* (altruism) influence the nature, behavior, and life of an individual is the man **Saul** whom Jesus radically transformed into a new creation named **Paul**. Paul testified, “**the truth of Christ** [*gen-uine, fuse-able DNA*] **is in me**” (2Cor. 11:10). Saul was a *Pharisee*, the predominant, religious sect of Judaism that interpreted and strictly enforced Moses’ Law. As a zealous Pharisee, Saul walked in *religious* darkness, **blinded by his own hypocrisy** and imprisoned in a deadly form of egoism called **self-righteousness**. Jesus warned, “Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy” (Luke 12:1). Saul had been thoroughly trained to rationalize and justify his eros behavior by mastering and exploiting the Hebrew Scriptures; therefore, the darkness of hypocrisy—a counterfeit ‘light’—was very deep *within* him.

Paul explained his former condition, “For **sin** [*eros, self-focus, the lie*], taking an opportunity through the commandment of God [*Moses’ Law*], **deceived me** and through it [*self-focused Law-keeping*] **killed me**” (Rom. 7:11). The nature of *the lie* within Saul seized every opportunity to subtly *twist* God’s Law and use it to his own advantage. To gratify himself, Saul’s *eros* nature easily morphed into a religious identity and activity of self-conscious egoism and self-promotion; therefore, he became relationally fruitless—**the living dead**.

In this fortified prison, not only did he believe that his own nation, Israel, was inherently special but that he, as a zealous Pharisee, was *particularly* special.

This toxic egoism effectively eclipsed Saul from the *true* kingdom and caused him to rapidly mature as a **religious predator**: “Saul began ravaging the church, entering house after house, and **dragging off men and women** he would put them in prison” (Acts 8:3). He testified, “I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor, yet I was shown mercy [*all-true Love*] because **I acted ignorantly in unbelief** [*e.g. the lie eclipsed me from God is true*]” (1Tim. 1:13).

Saul was trained as an ‘expert’ of God’s Law by one of the most eminent teachers of the Pharisees; therefore, Saul bought into *the lie* that he *himself* uniquely ‘possessed’ the truth: “**having in the Law the embodiment of knowledge and of the truth**” (Rom. 2:20). Further, the more he saw himself ‘fulfilling’ the Law, the more he believed that this *truth* was inherently in him: “a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless” (Phil. 3:5-6).

However, Saul’s religious self-deception and predatory rampage was radically and mercifully interrupted when “**a light from heaven brighter**

**than the sun** [*God in Christ*]” (Acts 26:13) knocked him off his donkey. “He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?’ And he said, ‘Who are You, Lord? And He answered, ‘**I AM Jesus** who you are persecuting’” (Acts 9:4-5). This dramatic encounter with the Triune-Spectrum in one Beam awakened self-absorbed Saul to **Reality: Jesus is the embodiment of truth**—“truth is in Jesus” (Eph. 4:21).

As this self-righteous persecutor lay in the dirt, he received a *true* gift: “the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God [*true Triune-Love*] in the face of Christ” (2Cor. 4:6). The Light of “I AM Jesus” blinded Saul’s physical eyes for “**three days**” (Acts 9:9) affording him opportunity to ‘see’ himself as he actually was. In the Presence of the Nucleus of the Trinity, **all the layers of hypocrisy and pretense were exposed** right down to his rotten core. Saul saw that strict adherence to Moses’ Law was entirely powerless to cure his *de-generate*, eros condition, much less *re-generate* him in “the truth” that God is. Further, he recognized his own self-deception: his zeal for Moses’ Law was, in reality, not only *idolatry* but indirect **self-worth-ship!** Saul saw that “the Law makes nothing perfect [*in Agape*]” (Heb. 7:19) and that only God in Christ had the power to *resurrect* the religious zombie he had become and *gene-rously* enable him to reciprocate Their true and faithful

Love. He later testified:

I find then the principle that **evil** [*eros, self-worth-ship*] **is present in me** [*de-generate DNA*]...making me a **prisoner of the law of sin** [*corruption, self-gratification*] which is in my members. Wretched man [*zombie*] that I am! Who will set me free from this **body of death?** Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Rom. 7:21-25).

Sustained exposure to the fusion glory in Jesus' face effectively **transformed** Saul, the self-promoter, into "Paul, a **bondservant** of Christ Jesus" (Rom. 1:1). In faith and faithful obedience to this *true* Light, Paul intentionally and consistently laid aside (forfeited) his old, corrupt self and put on the new, fuse-able self, which God made communicable to him in the *all-true* Man Jesus. Paul testified that this *gen-uine* and *gene-rous* nature he received actually had the power to motivate and govern his behavior: "For the Agape [*altruism*] of Christ controls us" (2Cor. 5:14). He added, "For we can do nothing **against the truth** [*the DNA of true Triune-Love at work in us*], but only **for the truth** [*doing all things in true, Trinity-like gene-rosity*]" (2Cor. 13:8). Observe in these statements that Paul does not speak individually ('me'), but rather "we" and "us." This is a sign

that his self-conscious, self-referential thinking was being displaced by Trinity-like thinking. Paul understood that the truth of God could only be fully discovered by an 'us' magnifying and imitating the "Us:"

Having been **knit** [*fused*] **together in Agape** [*practicing true, Trinity-like Love*], and attaining to all the wealth [*relational fullness*] that comes from the full assurance [*unshakable conviction*] of understanding, **resulting in a true knowledge** of God's mystery, that is, **Christ Himself** [*God-Man Nucleus*] in whom are hidden **all the treasures** of wisdom and knowledge [*truth is in Jesus: epicenter of eternal Reality*] (Col. 2:2-3).

The God-Man Jesus says, "**I AM the Alpha and the Omega** [*full Word of truth*], the first and the last [*Prototype and Perfecter of mankind*], the beginning and the end [*Creator and Nucleus of all things*]" (Rev. 22:13). Jesus is the secret of the mystery of the **eternal Triune-God**; He is the secret of the mystery of the **origin of mankind**, and He is the secret of the mystery of **the destiny that God and man share**—the Nucleus of the fusion of the Trinity and human beings in the consummated kingdom. "Christ Himself" is the Answer to every question that mankind has ever imagined or thought to ask; however,

all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are “**hidden**” in Him—**eclipsed to captives of the lie**. Remarkably, all the fullness of this “treasure” is contained within the seed of “Christ in you!” The fullness of this treasure opens to us incrementally, from glory to glory, according to the measure the seed of His nature and life germinates, grows, and comes to full maturity within us individually and corporately.

Paul cherished and consistently yielded to the incorruptible seed of Christ within him; therefore, it came to fruit-bearing maturity: “It is no longer I [*Saul*] who live, but **Christ lives in me**” (Gal. 2:20). He added, “We are always carrying about in the body **the dying** [*self-denial and sacrificial self-giving*] **of Jesus**, so that **the life of Jesus also may be manifested** in our body” (2Cor. 4:10). Jesus’ own dynamic altruism maturing and prevailing within Paul enabled him to relate both to God and men **without hypocrisy**:

Or what I purpose, do I purpose according to the flesh [*in self-will, self-reliance*], so that with me there will be a yes, yes and no, no at the same time [*Agape with hypocrisy*]? But **as God is faithful** [*true Triune-Love*], **our word** [*promise*] **to you is not yes and no...but is yes in Him** [*fused into Christ, I am empowered to remain faithful at all costs*]. . . . Such confidence we have through

Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves [*it is not me that is special*], but **our adequacy** [*to be faithful and all-true*] **is from God**, who also made us adequate servants of a new covenant [*fusion agreement*] (2Cor. 1:17-19; 3:4-5).

“The truth of Christ is in me” not only included Jesus’ nature and life manifested in and through Paul but also Jesus’ own **vocation** and **mandate**. Paul was fused to Jesus as His bondservant and sacrificially gave himself to fulfill his Master’s own calling—being sent to testify of true Triune-Love to all mankind. Paul said, “I am under obligation [*lit. a debtor; e.g. of Agape*] both to Greeks and barbarians, both to the wise and the foolish” (Rom. 1:14). The fusion Oneness of the servant-hearted Son Jesus and His true bondservant came to such maturity that Jesus was able to declare *through* Paul: “I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls” (2Cor. 12:15). Paul wrote:

Whatever you do [*as a free individual*], do all to the glory of God....Just as I also please all men in all things, **not seeking my own profit** [*self-gratification*] **but the profit of the many** [*sacrificial self-giving*], so that they may be saved (1Cor. 10:31-33).

Many of us believers have read and even *studied* in the Scriptures the transformation of Saul *into* Paul, yet we continue to act in his *former* likeness as religious predators—judging and tearing one another to pieces! It was to *Christians* that Paul wrote, “But if you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another” (Gal. 5:15). Do we believers have the same **self-referential** (eros) **approach** to true Christianity that Saul had to the truth of God in Judaism? Though we have been given the gift of *Paul’s* testimony of freedom—“Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ” (1Cor. 11:1)—is the exact same lie and ignorance of the truth still at work in us that had formerly tyrannized him as *Saul*?

Paul’s ministry was essentially participating with the Triune-God in the life and proclamation of the truth: “I am telling **the truth in Christ**, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me **in the Holy Spirit**” (Rom. 9:1). Self-absorbed Saul became self-emptied Paul so that he might receive and facilitate the fullness of God in Christ within himself and *radiate* Their all-true Love to mankind.

And when I came to you, brothers, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom [*eros manipulation, coercion*], proclaiming to you the testimony of God

[*true Triune-Love*]. For **I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified** [*embodiment of the fullness of truth*]....My message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom [*a fast-talker*], but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your **faith** would not rest on the wisdom of men [*eros rationale*], but on the **power of God** [*true Triune-Solidarity; fused into the Rock of Christ*].

Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature [*re-gene-rating in truth*]; a wisdom, however, not of this age nor of the rulers of this age [*predatory hypocrites*] who are passing away [*decaying in fission*]; but we speak **God's wisdom** [*true sacrificial self-giving Love*] in a mystery, the **hidden** [*eclipsed*] **wisdom** which God predestined before the ages to **our glory** [*man's participation in the fusion of the Trinity*], the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have **crucified the Lord of glory** [*Nucleus of the fusion of God and man*]; but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered into the heart of man [*eclipsed by*

*the lie*], all that God [*true Triune-Love*] has prepared [*kingdom cohabitation*] for those who love Him [*reciprocate God's true generosity*]" (1Cor. 2:1-5).

For a broader understanding of the custody battle between our true Father and “the father of the lie” (John 8:44), and how to distinguish between “the **spirit of truth** and the **spirit of error**” (1John 4:6), read Lifechangers *Plumbline* entitled *Discerning the Counterfeit*.

## **Conclusion**

No one can summarize how we believers both discover and *become* “the truth” better than T. Austin Sparks:

**The knowledge of God comes by the way of pain** [*suffering Love*]. You get a thing revealed to you as truth, perhaps something about the Cross of Christ, or victory over Satan, and you think you know it, and you say, “This is beautiful!” And you begin to talk about it, and it is not very long before something happens—your circumstances are touched. Now **you go down with this truth, down into the vortex of awful agony**, right down to the gates of hell, your being is upheaved right from the very bottom, and all the time

there is the question—“**Will that truth hold good?**” Is it going to work? [*has “true” fusion been achieved?*]

And when you have got down as far as you can go, the flesh elements and the **self elements** [*autonomous nucleus*] have been dealt with, and you grimly hold on to the Lord in this matter of victory—then it comes out, you have **tested** it right to the very bottom of your being—**that thing has become you**, [*“it is no longer I who live...”*; *“the truth of Christ is in me”*] and then you can go to others in their grim conflict [*torment of choice*] and their darkness, and say, “I know—I know this thing, and **I know God is faithful** [*all-true Love*], **I know the victory** [*freedom from the lie*]” You have got a mighty emphasis on your knowledge, it is a thing about which you have no doubt [*“full conviction” 1Thes. 1:5*], because you have gone down into the depths with it, and **proved** it down there, and by the very **pain** [*suffering Love*] the thing has been **proved** (T. Austin Sparks, *The People That Do Exploits*).

In the next volume, *God Magnified 6: Surveying the Most High*, we will continue investigating

true Triune-Love to discover why Father, Son, and Spirit, together, are “**the Most High God**” (Ps. 78:35; Heb. 7:1). We will magnify “**Jesus, Son of the Most High God**” (Luke 8:28) and see how this Man was raised from the dead, and why “God highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name” (Phil. 2:9). Further, we will learn how, as “**sons [and daughters] of the Most High**” (Luke 6:35), we are called to emigrate *out* of our fixation on ‘dirt’ in the economy of Worthless’ world and *into* the economy of the kingdom of heaven: “If you have been **raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above**, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above [*dynamic life of the Triune-Most High*], not on the things that are on earth” (Col. 3:1-2).

