



RELATIONSHIP PILGRIMAGE

**DEEPER DISCIPLINE BRINGS
DEEPER DISCIPLESHIP IN CHRIST**

Rev. Dr. James Paul Humphries
Rev. Dr. Lahtaw, Zau Sam

**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of
the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them
to obey everything I have commanded you.**

Matthew 28:19-20a

TITLE: RELATIONSHIP PILGRIMAGE

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FORWARD

Over the years I have been blessed to travel to many different countries of the world and in these countries seen a variety of different types of religions that date back thousands of years. These religions and the people who make up these people groups know that there is something more outside of who they are personally. Their hope is that as they reach out to touch god he will touch them. They also tend to worship something that is external and even create images that will help them in their focus. They give a great amount of time and finances to appease their gods. Their desire is to be accepted and they hope that somehow that all they do here on earth will give them a better place after they die.

God has been for thousands of years reaching out to us, trying to show us that it is not through the external programs and methods that He desires to touch us but it is by coming into one's life in a personal relationship with each individual. Placing His very being inside us, this will result in a changed heart, which in turn will change our thinking and will even bring about changes to our outward actions.

Throughout time the Bible has been looked at through many different kinds of lenses for example a book of just history or one that is full of laws, a patchwork and collection of testimonies of people's lives. A book of Hebrew and Greek Scriptures telling and speaking about a people group known as the Jews. But the Bible is more than that, it is a letter and manual concerning present and eternal relationship. The drama of this book pictures for us the heart of God. It's a foundation stone of one's relationship to God and to each other. We have a relationship picture that begins to unfold in the book of Genesis and will conclude with the disciples of Christ gathering around the marriage supper of the Lamb where time will be no more.

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My hope is that this booklet will challenge the reader to pick up the Bible and look at it one more time as a book that is to help us to draw closer to a living and loving God, who desires to be in us and with us each step of our daily walk here on earth. It is a book full of grace and mercy and it has at its heart, to be a bridge for man and God to touch each other. Look at it as a gigantic mural or puzzle, picturing for us yes lots of little pieces with all kinds of themes and events. But the big picture has as its goal to bring you into a deep and personal relationship with God.

It will take faith and action on your part but it will begin for you a journey of relationship that you never thought possible.

A man name Paul wrote this,

*More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, **that I may know Him** and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.*

Philippians 3:8-11

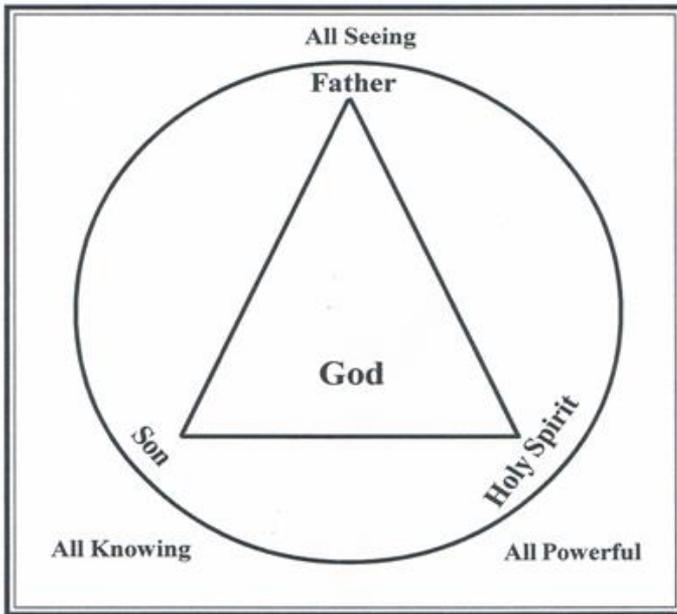
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SECTION ONE

INTRODUCTION

God

“The one who is and always will be God”



“I am the Alpha and Omega says the lord, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 1:8

“God desires a personal Relationship with you.”

“THAT I MAY KNOW HIM...” PHIL 3:10

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WELCOME and thank you for taking the time to look at this booklet. It is our hope that you will take away new and valuable insights as you read. This book focuses on a word that is vitally important to our existence on earth – the word *relationship*. Relationship is defined as “the state of being connected”. Synonyms include “relation, association, link, alliance, bond, interconnection”. It is something we all desire and hope for. In order to make a strong relationship with others we need to follow a few key principles. The same applies when building a relationship with God. He desires with all His heart to have a relationship with us and we need to learn how to make that possible.

Today I want to take you on a wonderful journey that will change you from the inside out. It is a pilgrimage that can lead you to everlasting life.

Did you know that we are made up of three parts. First is the body, our physical tent or building that houses who we are. Second, we have a mind or soul that does the thinking and decision-making. Third, is the spirit part that remains dead until the door is opened up to house either the spirit of the world or the Spirit of God.

Many people are looking to knowledge and understanding to be enlightened, but find themselves walking in darkness. The New World Order is pointing people to look within themselves for a new self-consciousness, but they are becoming more confused or over-stressed. When all else fails they hope to become reincarnated into the next circle of life, where they will be able to empty themselves of everything and move into a higher plane of nirvana. It is then that their souls will be set free from suffering and will obtain the state of perfect bliss, so they hope.

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The challenge is in that we do not have to wait we can have it all now. People are tired of being alone, feeling empty inside and that nobody cares. Even though they try to fill the empty void with material things or pleasures, it still remains empty. The problem is that most people do not realize that there is only one key that will unlock the door of happiness. The key is called relationship, not to things or people, but to God.

This little booklet is a road map to help you find your way to a new truth, to bring you into a new life. God desires to have a personal relationship with you for all eternity. Who is this God, you may ask? We continuously hear that this god or that god is the truth. But the God that I want to introduce you to today is a real person, with a real name, that desires to love you and have a personal relationship with you.

Let me take you on a small journey that will lead you into a deep and fulfilling relationship with God. You will for the first time have a clear light for your pathway. Self-consciousness will be replaced with God-consciousness. By God's love, you will be taken off an endless cycle of reincarnation, to be put on a true path of hope – hope that will lead to everlasting eternity with God. He desires to move you from bondage to freedom.

I desire to use the Bible as the foundation stone for our look at what it means to have a personal relation with God and how God loves and moves in and through our hearts. The Bible is like a drama that spreads out over thousands and thousands of years. It speaks and gives testimonies of all kinds of nations and cultures. It gives to us a history and a time line that starts at creation and concludes with the destruction of all things as we know it and brings into being a new heaven and earth.

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In our first picture we see that God is one God who comes to us in three different aspects or functions. One is as a person who Fathers us. The second aspect is that He is God who comes to us as a Son and the third aspect is that He comes as the Holy Spirit who indwells and empowers us. This God is all seeing, all knowing and all powerful.

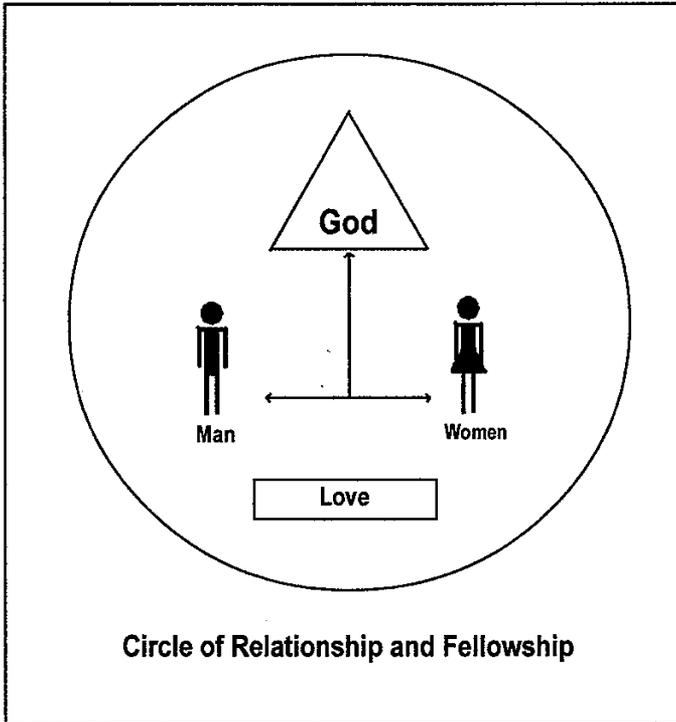
Just like we have three parts that make up who we are, He comes to us as one God who is the Creator of all things. He is the Almighty One, full of grace and mercy. To Moses He introduced Himself as the great "I Am".

I urge you to quiet down all the external voices and take a little time today to explore the Bible as a personal love letter from a God who wants to so desperately have an intimate and personal relationship with you.

What follows are steps that will open the door for yourself and others to having a personal relationship with God Almighty. We will start this journey by looking at it from the point of being a drama or play that one could watch at a theatre. We have divided it up into twenty scenes or little pictures that have happen over a period of ten thousand years or more.

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Relationship Created



"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."

Gen 1:27

"Man and God fellowshiped together face to face"

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The triangle represents God, Creator of heaven and earth. He lovingly fashioned man in His own image. The triangle also demonstrates the three parts of God's heart – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One God can function and minister to man in three different ways.

Going back to when God created all things, He had in mind the concept of making a world built on the promise of relationship. He desired all creation to be an example of His glory and oneness, modeling harmony and unity with each other. We see that God created everything for relationship.

At the end of the six days His final act of “relationship creation” was man. He said, “Let us make man in our own image” (Genesis 1: 26). After a period of time, He saw that man was alone and also desired relationship with one of his own kind. Therefore, out of man He created woman. Both would help and encourage the other and would have a unique and special fellowship with God.

This relationship was built on trust and obedience. Man and woman had a free will that would allow them to choose how to walk with the Creator. This relationship was to be sustained on a few basic principles. First, relationship needed to be pure and loving. Also, each had their own purpose, but could communicate with the other at any time. Man was not created to be an island unto himself, he needed others to fulfill his life.

The key to this three-way relationship (God, man and woman) would be communication. The lines in the picture demonstrate that man and woman could speak to each other but also had a direct line to God, as individuals or corporately as one. Communication is the lifeline for man and woman to be connected with their Creator and is also the channel which reveals to others



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