

# WEEK 42 — OUTLINE

## The Oneness in the Triune God Typified by the Tabernacle

Scripture Reading: Exo. 26:15, 24-29; John 17:11, 21-23; Eph. 4:2-3

### « DAY 1 »

- I. The oneness of the Body of Christ is the oneness in the Triune God, revealed in the Lord's prayer in John 17; the oneness of the Body of Christ is the enlarged oneness of the Divine Trinity (vv. 11, 21-23).
- II. The oneness for which the Lord prayed in John 17 is the oneness typified by the tabernacle in Exodus 26; because the forty-eight boards of the tabernacle typify the believers built together to be the dwelling place of God, the tabernacle is a clear picture of the oneness in the Triune God:

### « DAY 2 »

- A. The first aspect of the oneness in the Triune God is seen with the three gold rings (the receptacles for the uniting bars), which signify the initial Spirit, the regenerating and sealing Spirit, the all-inclusive Spirit of the Triune God in resurrection for the uniting of the believers (vv. 15, 24-25, 29; John 3:6; Eph. 1:13; 4:3, 30; cf. Gen. 24:22; Luke 15:22).
- B. The second aspect of the oneness in the Triune God is seen in the overlaying of the boards (signifying the believers with the human nature) with gold (signifying God with the divine nature) (Exo. 26:29):
  1. The oneness of the boards of the tabernacle was not in the acacia wood but in the gold that overlaid the wood; this portrays that the oneness in the church is not in our humanity but in the Triune God with His divine nature (John 17:21).
  2. The oneness of the boards was not only in the gold, signifying God, but also in the shining of the gold, the expression of the gold, signifying the glory of God; our oneness today is in the Triune God and in His glory, His shining, His expression (vv. 22-24).
  3. The initial Spirit, who is the Triune God typified by the gold, is the oneness of the Spirit (Eph. 4:3); the overlaying of the gold is actually the spreading of the oneness:
    - a. The more we are overlaid with gold, the more oneness we have; the more we have of God, the stronger our oneness is (cf. Col. 2:19).
    - b. Instead of being overlaid with gold, we may be merely gilded with gold, like Babylon the Great in Revelation 17; the amount of gold we have may not be enough to keep us in the genuine oneness (v. 4).

### « DAY 3 »

- c. Only when the boards were adequately overlaid with gold were they perfected into one; this indicates that to be perfected into one is to gain more of God (John 17:23).
- d. It is not an easy matter to acquire enough gold to thickly overlay a board of acacia wood fifteen feet long and twenty-seven inches wide; the gold (signifying God) must be weighty, thick, and sufficient to support a heavy board and hold it together with other boards (the believers) (Exo. 26:16).
- e. The oneness is not in our humanity; it is altogether in the Triune God; to be perfected into one means to gain more of God (John 17:21, 23).

### « DAY 4 »

4. “Not having an adequate amount of God can create a serious problem with the oneness. The Lord’s recovery is not a movement. We do not desire to gain a large number of people. In the recovery we are concerned for the genuine weight of gold. The important question is this: How much of God do you have? The Lord’s recovery consists of God overlaying His recovered people with Himself” (Truth Messages, p. 84).
5. Oneness is a matter of sinking deeply into the Triune God until we are fully overlaid with gold; our problem is that we are short of God, and our need is to gain more of Him (Col. 2:19b; Phil. 3:8b):
  - a. Everything depends upon how much gold we have; we all can become dissenting if we are short of gold.
  - b. Today the Lord needs this genuine oneness; if we do not have this oneness, we cannot go on in the recovery.
  - c. The only way to be kept in this solid, real oneness is to have an adequate amount of the experienced God (v. 10).

### « DAY 5 »

6. The golden nature of God will never overlay our fallen nature but will overlay only our regenerated and transformed nature, signified by acacia wood:
  - a. The overlaying of gold occurs simultaneously with this transformation; wherever transformation is, there the overlaying of the gold is also.
  - b. Transformation depends upon our loving the Lord, our contacting Him, our listening to His word, our praying to Him, and our walking according to the spirit; as long as we have these five things, we are living Christ (Rom. 8:4; Phil. 1:19-21a).
  - c. Only when we all have been transformed and overlaid with gold will it no longer be possible for there to be dissension among us; the only safeguard is to be overlaid with gold (2 Cor. 3:16-18; Rom. 12:1-5).

### « DAY 6 »

- C. The third aspect of the oneness in the Triune God is seen with the uniting bars, which held the forty-eight boards together and brought them into oneness; these uniting bars signify the initial Spirit becoming the uniting Spirit to join all the members of Christ into one Body (Exo. 26:26-29; Eph. 4:3):
1. The uniting bars were made of acacia wood for connecting strength and overlaid with gold for uniting; that the bars were made of acacia wood indicates that the oneness of the Spirit involves not only Christ's divinity but also His humanity (cf. v. 2, footnote 1).
  2. In actuality, the uniting bars signify not the Holy Spirit alone but the Holy Spirit mingled with our human spirit (Rom. 8:16)—the mingled spirit, which includes both divinity and humanity.
  3. The uniting of the boards of the tabernacle involved the passing of the bars through the rings on each board to join the boards together; this signifies that the believers in Christ are united when their spirit cooperates with the Spirit, thus allowing the uniting Spirit to pass through them to join them to other believers.
  4. In order for the uniting Spirit to pass through us and thus join us with others, we need to receive the cross, for the uniting Spirit always crosses the standing boards (Matt. 16:24):
    - a. We are joined into one by our spirit (with our mind, will, and emotion) cooperating with the crossing Spirit; whenever our spirit is one with the crossing Spirit, we experience the uniting Spirit.
    - b. The initial Spirit must become the uniting Spirit within us; then we will have the oneness and the building and will be safeguarded from dissension and division.
    - c. "This message is not the result of Bible study; it is the result of intense suffering. Because of this suffering, I have been greatly exercised before the Lord in an attempt to understand the situation. Gradually, the Lord showed me that certain dear ones had nothing more than the three rings. With them, there was no spreading of the gold because there was no transformation. The reason there was no transformation was that in the experience of these dissenting ones there was no dealing of the cross" (Truth Messages, p. 95).
    - d. We are conformed to Christ's death through the power of His resurrection (Phil. 3:10; S.S. 2:8-14).
    - e. Everything that we do and say must be through the cross and by the Spirit to dispense Christ into others for the building up of the Body of Christ.

## << WEEK 42 — DAY 1 >>

### Morning Nourishment

Eph. 4:3-6 “Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace: one Body and one Spirit, even as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

The Trinity is implied even here in Ephesians 4:6. Over all refers mainly to the Father, through all to the Son, and in all to the Spirit. The Triune God eventually enters into us all by reaching us as the Spirit. The oneness of the Body of Christ is constituted of the Trinity of the Godhead—the Father as the source and origin being the Originator, the Son as the Lord and Head being the Accomplisher, and the Spirit as the life-giving Spirit being the Executor. The Triune God Himself, when realized and experienced by us in our daily life, is the fundamental basis and very foundation of our oneness. (Eph. 4:6, footnote 3)

### Today's Reading

The genuine oneness of the Body...is just the processed Triune God, who mingles Himself with us, the redeemed and transformed Christians....This consummated, processed Triune God mingles Himself with His chosen people in their humanity, and this mingling is the genuine oneness.

The genuine oneness is not merely a matter of our meeting together. The worldly people meet together, and in their gatherings they have their kind of oneness. However, that is not our oneness. Our oneness is the oneness of the organic Body of Christ. The Body of Christ is a mingling of the Triune God with His redeemed and transformed people. Because it is such a mingling, the Body itself is the oneness. The Three of the Triune God—the Father, the Son, and the Spirit—are three divine factors of this oneness, and these three divine factors are mingled with one human factor, consummating in the Body. This Body is the genuine oneness.

First, this oneness was something in the Lord's desire. This desire of the Lord's became His aspiration, and this aspiration was expressed in the prayer offered by the Lord in John 17 (vv. 2, 6, 11, 14-24). The subject of the Lord's prayer in John 17 is oneness....At that time this oneness was not yet a reality; however, a model of this oneness—the oneness among the Three of the Divine Trinity—was there. The Father and the Son are one (vv. 11, 21), and this oneness implies or includes the Spirit. In John 17 the Lord used the plural pronouns We (v. 11) and Us (v. 21) to signify the Triune God. The Triune God is one, and that oneness is a model of the oneness of the Body of Christ. Because the oneness of the Body has the oneness among the Three of the Trinity as a model, John 17 tells us that this oneness is altogether wrapped up with the Triune God (v. 21). The oneness of the Body of Christ is just the enlarged oneness of the Divine Trinity. The model was there at the time the Lord prayed, but the enlargement was still to come. This enlarged oneness came on the day of Pentecost. Through the outpouring of the Spirit, the Body of Christ was produced (1 Cor. 12:13). That Body is the solid oneness.

The genuine oneness, which is the mingling of the Triune God with the redeemed humanity, has three aspects. The first aspect is the oneness in the Father's name by His divine life, and the second is the oneness in the Triune God by His sanctifying word. The first aspect concerns the source and the element of the oneness, and the second concerns the standing of the oneness....To practice the oneness, we must be separated from the world and kept away from Satan's hand.

The third aspect of the genuine oneness is the oneness of the believers in Christ in the divine glory (John 17:22-24)....God's glory is His divine life with His divine nature to express Him. If we did not have the Father's life with the Father's nature, it would be impossible for us to express the Father. The expression of the Father comes from the Father's life with the Father's nature. This expression of the Father is the glory. (The Intrinsic Problem in the Lord's Recovery Today and Its Scriptural Remedy, pp. 9-11, 13)

Further Reading: The Intrinsic Problem in the Lord's Recovery Today and Its Scriptural Remedy, ch. 1

## << WEEK 42 — DAY 2 >>

### Morning Nourishment

Exo. 26:29 “And you shall overlay the boards with gold, and make their rings of gold as holders for the bars; and you shall overlay the bars with gold.”

Eph. 4:3 “Being diligent to keep the oneness of the Spirit in the uniting bond of peace.”

The gold rings [in Exodus 26:29] signify the sealing Spirit (Eph. 1:13), the initial Spirit, that is, the regenerating Spirit (John 3:6), given to us by God at the time of our believing in Christ (Gen. 24:22; Luke 15:22; Acts 2:38). Since the number three signifies the Triune God in resurrection, the three rings (see Exo. 26:28, footnote 1, par. 1) indicate the all-inclusive Spirit of the Triune God in resurrection (John 7:39) for the uniting of the believers (Eph. 4:3). (Exo. 26:29, footnote 2)

In order to become one entity as God’s dwelling place, the forty-eight boards in the tabernacle had to be united in oneness. The oneness of the boards of the tabernacle was not in the acacia wood but in the gold that overlaid the wood. Gold signifies the Triune God with His divine nature, and the shining of the gold signifies the glory of God. The oneness of the boards in the overlaying gold symbolizes the oneness of the believers in the Triune God and in His glory, His expression. This is the practical oneness for which the Lord prayed in John 17:21-23. This oneness is the building up of the believers to be God’s dwelling place (cf. John 14:23). (Exo. 26:29, footnote 1)

### Today’s Reading

Nearly all the spiritual realities in the New Testament are abstract. However, for most of the spiritual realities there are types or pictures in the Old Testament. In Exodus 26 we have a picture of the oneness in the Triune God. The standing boards of the tabernacle make up a corporate structure. The Ark inside the tabernacle was an individual item, but the tabernacle was a corporate entity. The Ark typifies Christ. However, the same materials used in making the Ark were also used for the standing boards. Both the Ark and the boards were made of acacia wood overlaid with gold. There was a total of forty-eight boards. When these boards were put together, they composed God’s dwelling place. To be sure, God’s dwelling place is a corporate matter. Hence, in the tabernacle with the forty-eight standing boards we see a picture of real oneness. In order to become one entity as God’s dwelling place, the forty-eight boards had to be brought into oneness.

The gold was not only the oneness of the standing boards; it was also their glory. By being overlaid with gold, the standing boards bore the glory of the gold, for the shining of the gold was their glory, their expression. Anyone who entered into the tabernacle could see on every side the shining of the gold. Hence, the oneness of the forty-eight boards was not only in the gold, signifying God, but also in the shining of the gold, signifying the glory of God. In the same principle, our oneness today is in the Triune God and in His glory, His shining.

To prepare the wooden boards was not too difficult; however, to overlay these large boards was quite a difficult task. Although we all are boards, we may be overlaid with a very thin layer of gold. Yes, we may be in the Triune God, but we may not be deeply in Him. Instead of being overlaid with gold, we may be merely gilded with gold, like Babylon the Great in Revelation 17. If the standing boards had been only gilded with gold, there would have been no gold for the rings that supported the weight of the boards. In order for the forty-eight heavy boards to be held together, they each had to be overlaid with a heavy layer of gold.

Although gold is glorious and shiny, it is somewhat soft. In like manner, the uniting God is also rather “soft.” If we have just a little of Him, we shall not have a sufficient amount of gold for the oneness....However, if you have been overlaid with a heavy layer of gold, you will not be offended, no matter how much unpleasantness you may have to face....Although you may have a certain amount of gold, the amount you have may not be enough to keep you in the genuine oneness. (Truth Messages, pp. 79-82)

Further Reading: Truth Messages, ch. 9

## << WEEK 42 — DAY 3 >>

### Morning Nourishment

John 17:21 “That they all may be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that You have sent Me.”

23 “I in them, and You in Me, that they may be perfected into one, that the world may know that You have sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me.”

Exo. 26:29 “And you shall overlay the boards with gold...”

In our humanity it is impossible for us to be one. Instead of oneness, there is friction. The picture of the standing boards in Exodus 26 clearly shows that the oneness of the boards is altogether in the gold. And this gold must be weighty, thick, and sufficient to support a heavy board and hold it together with other boards. How important it is for us to have an adequate layer of gold! We need enough gold to bear the weight of the board. (Truth Messages, p. 82)

### Today's Reading

It is not an easy matter to acquire enough gold to thickly overlay a board of acacia wood fifteen feet long and twenty-seven inches wide. Humanly speaking, it is impossible. Likewise, it seems impossible for the saints to be truly one. Nevertheless, the fact that the tabernacle was built in the wilderness indicates that although it is impossible with man, it is possible with God....Nothing written in the Word of God is vain. Eventually, everything written in God's Word will be fulfilled by Him. With God there are no impossibilities. Therefore, we need to believe what is written in the Word regarding genuine oneness. I believe that the time has come for God to see the actual oneness among us in His recovery.

My burden...is to point out that genuine oneness is absolutely not to be found in our humanity. Do not think that if you are humble or meek, you can be one with others. No matter whether we are meek or rough, slow or quick, proud or humble, educated or uneducated, we all have a problem with oneness. In ourselves, by ourselves, and with ourselves we simply cannot be one with others. In fact, we are not always one with ourselves....The oneness is in the gold, not in the acacia wood. This means that the oneness in the church is not in our humanity; it is altogether in the Triune God. In the past I wondered why the Lord did not mention such virtues as humility, meekness, and kindness in His prayer for oneness. Instead, He spoke mainly about being in the Triune God. The concept of John 17:21-23 is that of oneness in the Triune God. This reveals that oneness is not in humanity; it is only in the Triune God.

In no other portion of the Bible is the Triune God revealed in such a practical way as in chapter 17 of John. The various pronouns used—I, Us, You—indicate that the Triune God is related to our oneness. It is in the Triune God that we are perfected into one. To be perfected means to have more gold. Only when the boards were adequately overlaid with gold were they perfected into one. This indicates that to be perfected into one means to gain more of God. Surely mere teachings about oneness can never make us one.

Oneness is not a superficial matter. It is a matter of sinking deeply into the Triune God until we are fully overlaid with gold. We all need a great deal more of God. It is not sufficient simply to be coated with a thin layer of Him. If we truly have light on our need to be overlaid with gold, we will repent and say, “Lord, I repent that I am only gilded with gold. I have not yet been overlaid. What I have experienced of You is merely gilding. It is good for causing others to praise me, but it is not good for the real oneness, for holding me together with others. When even a small problem arises, my layer of gold is not sufficient, and the oneness is damaged. Lord, for the oneness, overlay me with an adequate amount of gold.”

The more we are overlaid with gold, the more oneness we have. Nothing can damage the oneness that comes from our being overlaid with an ample quantity of gold. The more we have of God, the stronger is our oneness. (Truth Messages, pp. 82-84)

Further Reading: Truth Messages, ch. 9

## « WEEK 42 — DAY 4 »

### Morning Nourishment

Phil. 3:8-10 “But moreover I also count all things to be loss on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...that I may gain Christ and be found in Him,...to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death.”

Recently, some among us became dissenting, although they claimed to have seen the ground [of oneness] and to be for the Lord’s recovery. Because they had not been solidly overlaid with gold, they caused the oneness to be damaged. The same thing may happen in the future to anyone who is not fully overlaid with gold. Not having an adequate amount of God can create a serious problem with the oneness. The Lord’s recovery is not a movement. We do not desire to gain a large number of people. In the recovery we are concerned for the genuine weight of gold. The important question is this: How much of God do you have? The Lord’s recovery consists of God overlaying His recovered people with Himself. (Truth Messages, p. 84)

### Today’s Reading

Whenever I see that any are dissenting, I feel sorry for them. At the same time I realize that such a situation of dissension is a test, an exposure, and a purification. It is a test of what is real, of how much gold we actually have. We all need to gain more gold. It is not sufficient only to have a good heart, to know the truth, and to care for the Lord’s recovery. Everything depends upon how much gold we have. We all can become dissenting if we are short of gold. This should be a warning to us all. Again I say that genuine oneness is possible only in the Triune God.

We need to say a word now about the golden rings. Even after the boards had been overlaid with a heavy layer of gold, they could not be held together without the rings, which were receptacles. The overlaying gold was the ordinary gold, but the golden rings were the top portion of gold. This indicates our need for the top portion of God. For the practical oneness we need this special portion of Him. In order for there to be the oneness among the standing boards of the tabernacle, every board had to have this portion. It was the rings made from this portion of gold that held the uniting bars.

If we seriously consider the picture of the standing boards in Exodus 26, we will be deeply impressed with how much we are short of God. From 1925 I began to read articles in Christian magazines about the overcoming life. Although these articles provided help on how to be victorious, they did not say that we needed more of God. We do not need to learn so many methods. Our need is simply to sink into the Triune God and to gain more of Him. God is our truth, our way, our life, our everything. If we do not have God, we have nothing. Our problem is that we are short of God, and our need is to gain more of Him.

Perhaps you are one who is standing firmly in the church life. This is very good, but what about the oneness in the Triune God? We all need an adequate portion of God for the overlaying of the boards and the top portion of God for the rings that hold the uniting bars. When we have both the ordinary gold and the top portion of gold, we will have no problems with the oneness. However, if we do not gain the necessary gold, sooner or later we will have a problem. We need the solid oneness. This oneness is the adequate amount of God we have obtained. Do not rely on teachings or doctrines. Moreover, do not depend on your own love or your natural affection. Not even your steady will is trustworthy in keeping the oneness. Only one thing is dependable for oneness, and that is the adequate amount of God. Just as the standing boards could be one only in the gold, we can be one only by sinking into God.

Today the Lord needs the genuine oneness. If we do not have this oneness, we cannot go on in the recovery. Hence, the most vital and crucial matter is the genuine oneness. The only way to be kept in this solid, real oneness is to have an adequate amount of the experienced God. This is our need today. (Truth Messages, pp. 84-86)

Further Reading: Truth Messages, ch. 9

## << WEEK 42 — DAY 5 >>

### Morning Nourishment

Eph. 1:13 “In whom you also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, in Him also believing, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of the promise.”

2 Cor. 3:18 “But we all with unveiled face, beholding and reflecting like a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, even as from the Lord Spirit.”

After we are regenerated, the sealing Spirit begins to spread throughout our being....Many of us can testify that the spreading of the gold has increased since we came into the Lord's recovery....Being overlaid with gold always goes along with transformation, for the gold overlays only acacia wood. The golden nature of God will never overlay our fallen nature, but will overlay only our regenerated and transformed nature. Our fallen nature is corrupt wood, but our regenerated and transformed nature is acacia wood. (Truth Messages, p. 99)

### Today's Reading

I have no doubt that you all have the three rings, the Triune God as the initial Spirit sealing you, giving you the sense of discernment, and enabling you to express the Lord whom you love. But I am concerned that day after day may go by without you allowing the Lord to transform you....A particular part of our being cannot be reached by the overlaying gold until that part of us has truly been transformed.

The overlaying of the gold is actually the spreading of the oneness. We already have the oneness of the Spirit spoken of in Ephesians 4. This oneness of the Spirit is the gold of the three rings. The initial Spirit, who is the Triune God, is the very oneness of the Spirit. Now this oneness must spread until it overlays our whole being. We have seen that God does not overlay anything natural. Whatever is not acacia wood must be transformed, that is, changed in nature and form. No matter how good our natural being may seem to be, we still need to be transformed. Transformation has nothing to do with self-correction or self-improvement. Transformation depends upon our loving the Lord, our contacting Him, our listening to His word, our praying to Him, and our walking according to the spirit. As long as we have these five things, we are living Christ. We are taking Christ as our life. Therefore, transformation takes place spontaneously. The overlaying of gold occurs simultaneously with this transformation. Wherever transformation is, there the overlaying gold is also.

This message is...the result of intense suffering....Gradually, the Lord showed me that certain dear [dissenting] ones had nothing more than the three rings....There was no spreading of the gold because there was no transformation....[This is because] in the experience of these dissenting ones there was no dealing of the cross....The standing boards are crossed by the uniting bars. This indicates that although we may be standing upright, the uniting Spirit crosses us. Some today hate the cross; they even despise the word cross. But without the cross there can be no resurrection. The cross is very positive because it ushers us into resurrection. It is in resurrection that our natural life is transformed. This transformation in resurrection brings in the overlaying gold.

Only when we all have been transformed and overlaid with gold will it no longer be possible for there to be dissension among us. Until we are thus transformed and overlaid, we will always be in danger of falling into dissension. The only safeguard is to be overlaid with gold. We must not go on according to the natural being; instead of a natural humanity we must have a transformed humanity with the very humanity of Jesus as its element....Only the humanity of Jesus, which is a humanity in resurrection, is qualified to be overlaid with gold.

I beg you to bring this matter to the Lord in prayer. We need much prayer in order to realize that the steps to the genuine oneness come from our experience of God....In order to have the reality of this word, we need time and much prayer. (Truth Messages, pp. 94-96)

Further Reading: Truth Messages, ch. 10



## << WEEK 42 — DAY 6 >>

### Morning Nourishment

Exo. 26:26-28 “And you shall make bars of acacia wood, five for the boards of the one side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the other side of the tabernacle, and five bars for the boards of the side of the tabernacle at the rear westward. And the middle bar shall pass through in the center of the boards from end to end.”

This oneness has three aspects. The first aspect, the initial aspect, is with the golden rings. I am quite certain that the golden rings were attached to the boards before the boards were overlaid with gold. Thus, the first step was to attach the rings to the boards, and the second step was to overlay the boards with gold. The third step was to make the uniting bars, which held the forty-eight boards together and brought them into oneness. This oneness is the building, which is the dwelling place of God.

The rings signify the Triune God, and the gold covering the boards signifies the spreading of God. Just as the rings are a symbol of the initial Spirit, the bars are a symbol of the uniting Spirit. The boards stand upright, and the bars unite them by crossing them horizontally. (Truth Messages, pp. 98, 100)

### Today's Reading

The bars were made of acacia wood for connecting strength and overlaid with gold for uniting. They signify the initial Spirit...becoming the uniting Spirit to join all the members of Christ into one Body (Eph. 4:3-4). The boards stand in silver, signifying Christ's redemptive work, and they are united by gold, signifying Christ's divine person. That the bars were made of acacia wood indicates that the oneness of the Spirit involves not only Christ's divinity but also His humanity....In actuality, the uniting bars signify not the Holy Spirit alone, but the Holy Spirit mingled with our human spirit (Rom. 8:16)—the mingled spirit, which includes both divinity and humanity. (Exo. 26:26, footnote 1)

There were five bars for the boards on each side of the tabernacle (Exo. 26:26-27), the middle bar stretching from end to end and being twice as long as the other bars. Hence, the five bars formed three lines, indicating that there were three rings on each board to serve as holders for the bars.

The uniting of the boards of the tabernacle involved the passing of the bars through the rings on each board to join the boards together. This signifies that the believers in Christ are united when their spirit cooperates with the Spirit, thus allowing the uniting Spirit to pass through them to join them to other believers. (Exo. 26:28, footnote 1)

Whether or not the uniting Spirit can actually join us into one depends on whether or not we are willing to cooperate with this Spirit. If the Spirit does not have a way to pass through us, there can be no oneness. In order for the uniting Spirit to pass through us and thus join us with others, we need to receive the cross, for the uniting Spirit always crosses the standing boards. If we are willing to receive the cross, our spirit will cooperate with the uniting Spirit. Then the Spirit with our spirit will join us to another believer in Christ. We are joined into one by our spirit cooperating with the crossing Spirit.

The uniting Spirit is seeking to cross through us to others. The question is whether or not we are willing to go along with Him. Whenever our spirit is one with the crossing Spirit, we experience the uniting Spirit. Every time we walk according to the Spirit, we experience the crossing of the Spirit. We stand, but we are crossed by the Spirit. The Spirit will never cross through us unless our spirit goes along with Him. When our spirit agrees with the crossing Spirit, we have the uniting bar....This understanding of the uniting bars is confirmed by our experience.

In order for this to take place, our spirit, with our mind, will, and emotion, must go along with Him. Only then do we have the uniting bars, the five bars in three rows to unite the believers into one. When we have all these aspects, we have the oneness in the Triune God revealed in John 17. This means that we have the building in the overlaying and uniting gold. (Truth Messages, pp. 102-103)

Further Reading: Truth Messages, ch. 11

# Father God, Thou art the source of life

Worship of the Father — His Name, His Word, His Glory

1081

The musical score is written in C major, 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with the lyrics '1. Fath - er God, Thou art the source of life. We, Thy sons, are Thine ex - pres - sion;'. The second staff continues with 'In Thy name, our dear pos - ses - sion. Fath - er God, Thou art the'. The third staff is the start of the chorus, marked 'Chorus', with lyrics 'source of life. (C) In Thy life, in Thy life, We have one - ness in Thy'. The fourth staff concludes the chorus with 'life. In Thy life, in Thy life, In Thy life, O Fath - er, we are one.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, Em/B, Am, C/G, F, G7/F, Em, Am, F, G7, C, Am, F, C/E, F, C/G, G7, C, C7/E, F, G7/F, Em, Am, Dm, G7, C, C7, F, D7/F#, C/G, G7, C, F/C, C.

**2.** How we thank Thee that Thy holy Word  
With Thy nature, saturates us;  
From the world it separates us.  
Thank Thee, Father, for Thy holy Word.

Through Thy Word, through Thy Word,  
We have oneness through Thy Word.  
Through Thy Word, through Thy Word,  
Through Thy holy Word we're all made one.

**3.** Oh, the glory of the Triune God!  
We're His sons, oh, what a blessing!  
We His glory are expressing—  
Oh, the glory of the Triune God!

In Thy glory, in Thy glory,  
In Thy glory we are one.  
In Thy glory, in Thy glory,  
In Thy glory we are all made one!