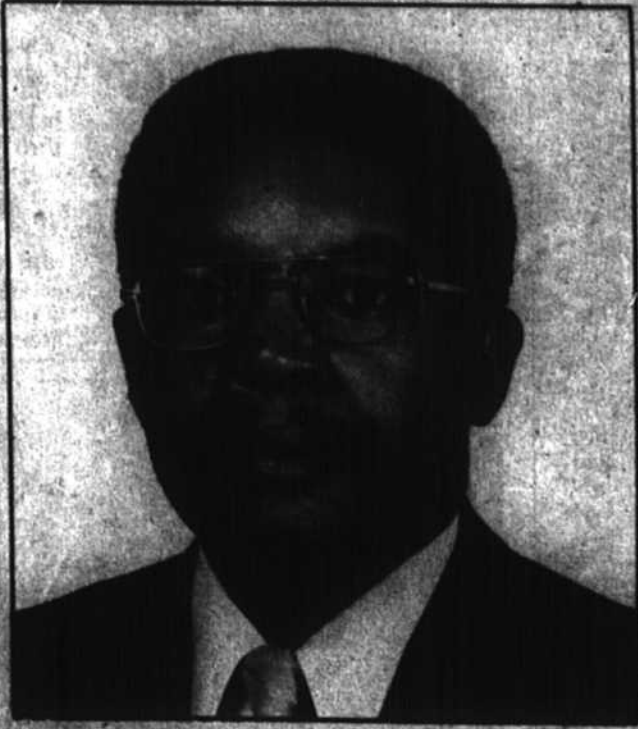


Prophet's Column

"Union With Christ"

By J. M. Little
Special To The Post
It means something to be saved, to know Christ as your Lord and your Saviour and to be an offense to the world. I don't care how long you have been preaching or teaching, if you are not an offense to the religious world, then you know nothing about Christ.



J. M. Little

First in series

If the religious world loves you, then that is a concrete evidence you are not saved. The multitudes of our preachers and deacons are pleasing the crowds. And when someone comes along bringing a Spirit indited message that exposes your blinded and lost condition, you brand him as crazy and his message as unwholesome. I am very much aware of the hatred the religious world has for the few servants of the Lord. The greatest enemy of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is an individual on a religious profession without Christ, usually a preacher or teacher. The ministry today, as a whole, is a total stranger to the way of grace. Our religious leaders have gone through the seminaries and Bible schools but have never been awakened to their lost, ruined condition. That's why you don't understand awakened sinners and why you hate these simple Gospel messages. You simply don't want to admit that you are lost. My friend, it's grace upon grace and mercy upon mercy for the Lord in His great love to awaken you to the fact you are a lost sinner. If you could only see that, before any sinner can be saved, that is, brought to know Christ, he must be awakened to his lost condition. When was the last time your pastor preached on being a lost sinner?

The next time you talk with your pastor ask him to tell you about his being a lost sinner and seeing that God is sovereign and didn't have to save him. It'll embarrass your pastor.

Our subject at this time is "UNION WITH CHRIST." First, let me ask you a question: "Are you united with Christ?" I am. When God saves a sinner, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit abide in the believer's heart by faith. It is a living union with the eternal Godhead. "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man loves me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." (John 14:23) Now, just how is Christ and the Father made known to the believer's heart? I know, in the average church, the sinner is asked if he believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and when he answers that he does, the pastor will tell him that he is saved. What a tragedy! That blinded sinner knows nothing about his lost and totally depraved condition, yet he is told that he is saved by his pastor. And how many have said: "I know I'm saved because my pastor told me I was

saved." Such as that reveals the utter blindness and utter stupidity on behalf of the religious leaders of our nation. Now, just how is the believer and Christ made one? Or, how is the believer united with Christ? All right, now you just let the Word speak for itself: "He (Christ; saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." (Matt 16:15-17) Note these words, "FOR FLESH AND BLOOD HATH NOT REVEALED IT UNTO THEE, BUT MY FATHER WHICH IS IN HEAVEN." The believer is united to Christ by Christ being REVEALED to his heart by the Father, and the Father does so through the blessed Holy Spirit.

This is the only way a sinner is united with Christ. Christ is REVEALED to his heart and he is united with Christ for all eternity. That's why it doesn't matter what criticism or persecution I may have to suffer. You count me as an outcast because I am united with Christ. You don't understand this union with Christ because in the first place you have never known your lost condition under the convicting and revealing work of the Holy Spirit. (John 16:7-11)

Friend, you cannot be united with Someone you don't know, and you can only know Christ when He is REVEALED to your heart. Now, you let that soak in. The multitudes of our preachers know absolutely nothing about the convicting and revealing work of the Holy Spirit to bring a sinner to where he wants Christ above everything under the sun. But the sinner who gets to Christ comes to want Him above everything under the sun! That'll hold true 100 percent! If you didn't come to

want Christ like that, then you missed Christ altogether. And that's why I cannot find fellowship with you in Christ. If you knew Him I could find fellowship with you in Him. There is no way under Heaven that you can know Christ and be united with Him except by revelation. Flesh and blood cannot reveal Christ to your heart. Do you know Christ?

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GUILFORD COUNTY

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE
DISTRICT COURT DIVISION
File #6 J 122

IN RE: Thomas, A Minor Child
To: Tracey Gilliam, Respondent

TAKE NOTICE a petition seeking termination of your parental rights and obligations to above named child born on the 17th day of November, 1985 in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina has been filed against you.

You are required to file written answer to the petition within 40 days following the first publication date which date appears below. Upon failure to do so, your parental rights, if any, may be terminated, at a hearing in Juvenile Court, Guilford County Court Building, Governmental Plaza, Greensboro, North Carolina immediately following said 40 day answer period or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

You are entitled to be represented by counsel; Court appointed if you are indigent, provided you request counsel at or prior to said hearing.

Publication Dates: March 20, 1986; March 27, 1986; April 3, 1986.

Blair L. Dally
Attorney for the Children's Home Society of North Carolina, Inc., Petitioner
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