



Christ Our Life & Pattern

At Christ's Table ~ ACTpublications

"Explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words."

1 Corinthians 2:13

© 2018

W.D. Furioso ~ Edited by Frances Furioso ~ At Christ's Table ~ ACTpublications <https://www.AtChristsTable.org>

ACTpublications may be freely shared, reproduced, and distributed - unaltered, in digital or print formats.
Any quotations or excerpts must also be unaltered and referenced with the above information.
Unless otherwise noted, all scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Bible.

To discern the mystery of Christ fully, we must have revelation of Him as the New Covenant Pattern, because the New Covenant is all about the life of Christ in us. This is the subject matter of this article.

“Consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.”¹

“In these last days (God) has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature and upholds all things by the word of His power.”²

“For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him.”³

“God’s mystery, that is, Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.... For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.”⁴

Christ is God’s ALL - He is the Pattern for “the fulness of God”⁵.

The apostle Paul wrote that in Christ dwells the “fulness”.⁶ The “fulness” of what or of whom? Paul explains that it is the “fulness of God”⁷ - that is, all that God is, and all that God says, and all that God does, and all that God

¹ Hebrews 3:1

² Hebrews 1:2-3a

³ Colossians 1:19

⁴ Colossians 2:2b-3, 9

⁵ Greek: pleroma, Strong’s # 4138, meaning that which fills to completion, i.e. “all”.

⁶ Colossians 1:19

⁷ Colossians 2:9

has to give. The title (and the theme) of a wonderful little book written by Watchman Nee says it well: *“Christ, the Sum of All Spiritual Things”*.⁸ God hasn’t given us a number of spiritual “commodities” – He has given us a **Person**. If you have Christ, you have **all** that God has to give.

Is it possible to summarize all that God has given in Christ? Is it possible to summarize all that Jesus came to give? There are numerous places in the gospels where Jesus announced that He had come for various reasons.⁹ Is there one reason that may be the sum of all?

I believe Jesus was summarizing His life and ministry on earth when He was speaking to the Father in what we call His “High Priestly Prayer” in John 17:1-5

¹“Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, ²even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. ³This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. ⁴I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. ⁵Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.”

⁸ On the same theme, I would recommend a great article by A.B. Simpson, *“Himself”*.

<http://www.atchriststable.org/himself.html>

⁹ Numerous places in the gospels Jesus announced that He had come for various reasons: “to fulfill the law”, Matthew 5:17; “to bring a sword (of division)”, Matthew 10:34; “to serve”, Mark 10:45; “to start a fire on the earth”, Luke 12:49; “to seek and save the lost”, Luke 19:10; “to do the will of the Father”, John 6:38; “to give light”, John 12:46; “to bear witness to the truth”, John 18:37.

All that the Father and Christ had in their heart and mind for the redemption of Humanity could be summarized as giving (or better, restoring) eternal life. Jesus said: *"I came that they may have life and have it fully."*¹⁰ In one of his epistles, the apostle John wrote: *"He who has the Son, has the life."*¹¹ Just as *"God is love."*¹², God is life. Immortality - eternal life - is the life of the Eternal One – without beginning and without end. This kind of life is only available in God,¹³ through faith in Christ. This life is inseparable from God, meaning it is not a "spiritual commodity"; it is the Person of Christ Himself. *"He who has¹⁴ the Son, has the life."*¹⁵ *"Christ, our life."*¹⁶ Jesus defined this "eternal life" as *"knowing¹⁷ the only true God and Jesus Christ"*. Indeed, Jesus explained that knowing Him was knowing the Father, for He had come to reveal the Father.¹⁸ Jesus is our Pattern for knowing God, and therefore, Christ, Himself, is the New Covenant Pattern.

"Christ Our Life & Pattern" is an excerpt from the eBook [A New & Living Way](#). See this and other eBooks, Articles & Audio Messages on [our website](#).

¹⁰ John 10:10b. "life": Not "*bios*", Strong's #979, biological life; but "*zoe*", Strong's # 2222, spiritual life. See further definition and distinction in *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*, p. 367.

¹¹ 1 John 5:12

¹² 1 John 4:8

¹³ 1 Timothy 1:17 & 6:16. i.e. Man is not created as an immortal being. Eternal life must be received from God through faith in Christ.

¹⁴ "has": Greek: echo, Strong's # 2192, taken hold of, taken possession of (through faith).

¹⁵ 1 John 5:12

¹⁶ Colossians 3:4

¹⁷ "know": (Greek) *ginosko*, Strong's # 1097, to know absolutely, to perceive and understand by means of a relationship, even an intimate relationship (e.g., between a man and a woman).

¹⁸ Matthew 11:27; John 1:18; 14:9.

Bill & Frances Furioso
~ At Christ's Table ~



Bill Furioso and his wife, Frances, have been married for more than 40 years, and have two children, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Bill and Frances served as missionaries in South Africa for thirteen years making disciples, establishing churches, and training church leaders. Over a span of 40 years, they also traveled extensively in an itinerant Bible teaching ministry which took them to hundreds of gatherings on four continents ministering in churches, conferences, spiritual formation seminars, and home gatherings. They have shepherded several churches, discipled many to Christ, and mentored church leaders in the USA and abroad.

Being an avid student by nature, Bill has done both formal and informal study in various fields including Education, Music, Philosophy and Theology. As a writer, he has authored many publications which are distributed worldwide. Because of Bill's disabilities resulting from a spinal cord injury, he can no longer travel, so their ministries of writing, recording, distributing, mentoring, and correspondence are now shared primarily via the Internet... www.AtChristsTable.org

ACTpublications

"Explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words." 1 Corinthians 2:13

A teaching ministry from Bill and Frances Furioso

At Christ's Table

Disciples of the King and His Kingdom eating and drinking of Jesus

THE HEAD

THE CENTER

THE FOUNDATION

of Biblical Christianity

with a view to

REVELATION of Christ

RELATIONSHIP with Christ

REFLECTION of Christ

READ-LISTEN-DOWNLOAD (FREE)

ALL OF OUR MINISTRY RESOURCES ON OUR WEBSITE:

<https://www.AtChristsTable.org>

Other places you will find our written & recorded resources ...

WRITTEN MESSAGES

The Restoration Library: <https://www.therestorationlibrary.com>

Academia.edu: <https://independent.academia.edu/WDFurioso>

RECORDED MESSAGES

YouTube: www.YouTube.com/user/BillFurioso

Academia.edu: <https://independent.academia.edu/WDFurioso>

SoundCloud: <https://soundcloud.com/user-648428572>

Spreaker: <https://www.spreaker.com/user/14502151>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: www.facebook.com/atchriststable

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/at-christ-s-table-ministries-254b5320/>

Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/atchriststable1>

Christ Our Life & Pattern

W.D. Furioso ~ ACTpublications (2018) ~ www.AtChristsTable.org