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THE 'UNIO MYSTICA'

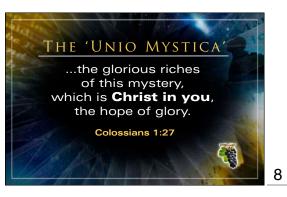
"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church.

Ephesians 5:31-32 (ESV)









"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and **I in him**, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."





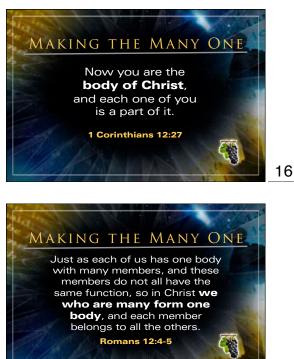


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ÝUnio Mystica' God <u>. Man</u> The Family of God The Body of Christ Man ÝMystical Union'

Blurring the Spheres...



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...the **mystery** hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God...

Romans 16:25-26

THE 'MYSTERY' OF CHRIST

And he made known to us the **mystery** of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment—to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

Ephesians 1:9-10

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THE 'MYSTERY' OF CHRIST

This **mystery** is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of **one body**, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

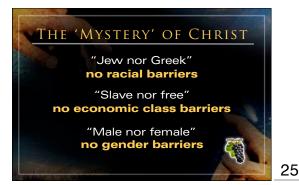
Ephesians 3:6

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THE 'MYSTERY' OF CHRIST

There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, **for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Galatians 3:28-29



THE CHURCH

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

Ephesians 2:19-22

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THE CHURCH

In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being **built together** to become a **dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit**.

Ephesians 2:19-22

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JESUS' VISION For the Church

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, **just as you are in me and I am in you**. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me... John 17:20-23

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JESUS' VISION For the Church

I have given them the glory that you gave me, **that they may be one as** we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me." John 17:20-23

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UNITY, ONENESS...AGAIN

Make every effort to keep the **unity** of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called one Lord, one faith, one baptism;

Ephesians 4:3-5

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THE FLOCK

Love one another (1 Pet 1:22) Bear one another's burdens (Gal 6:2) Pray for one another (Jam 5:16) Forebear one another (Eph 4:2) Be kind to one another (Eph 4:32) Admonish one another (Col 3:16) Build one another up (Rom 14:19) Give preference to one another (Rom 12:10) Live in harmony with one another (Rom 12:16)

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The Flock

Encourage one another (1 Thess 5:11) Submit to one another (Eph 5:21) Serve one another (Gal 5:13) Accept one another (Rom 15:7) Be devoted to one another (Rom 12:10) Teach one another (Col 3:16) Comfort one another (1 Thess 4:18) Forgive one another (Eph 4:32) Be of the same mind with one another (Rom 15:5) Regard one another as more important (Phil 2:3)

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JESUS' VISION FOR THE CHURCH

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35



WHY TASSELS?

"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'Throughout the generations to come you are to make tassels on the corners of your garments, with a blue cord on each tassel.

Numbers 15:38-39

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WHY TASSELS?

You will have these tassels to look at and so you will remember all the commands of the LORD, that you may obey them and not prostitute yourselves by going after the lusts of your own hearts and eyes.""

Numbers 15:38-39

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JESUS AND "TASSELS"

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must obey them and do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy loads and put them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them...

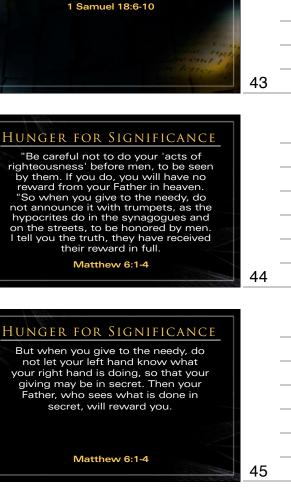
Matthew 23:1-7

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JESUS AND "TASSELS"

Everything they do is done for men to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; they love to be greeted in the marketplaces and to have men call them 'Rabbi.' Deut 6:8 Matthew 23:1-7





HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE

"Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the bypoeritan do in the guargeouse and hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.

after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with

HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE When the men were returning home

joyful songs and with tambourines and lutes. As they danced, they sang: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands."

1 Samuel 18:6-10

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HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE

Saul was very angry; this refrain galled him. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?" And from that time on Saul kept a jealous eye on David.

1 Samuel 18:6-10

HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE

The next day an evil spirit from God came forcefully upon Saul.

HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by men. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:5-6

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HUNGER FOR SIGNIFICANCE

"When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:16-18

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BUYER'S REMORSE

Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.

Isaiah 55:1-2

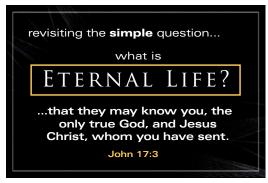
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BUYER'S REMORSE

Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

Isaiah 55:1-2







The True Perspective on Man's Need

"God has made us for Himself and our hearts are restless until we find our rest in Him."

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Psalm 42:1-2

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