

The Unitive Life



1. Abiding Intimacy (John 10:30)

- *"Spiritual marriage" or "deification"
- *The deifying of a person is the necessary corollary of the incarnation--the humanizing of God
- *Life is now unified around God as the Center
- *The reservoir of resource is full and actualized
- *The personality is adapted to the energetic word of God from which is drawn amazing strength, immovable peace, and the power to deal with circumstances in a way which pleases God
- *The self is totally penetrated by God as a sponge is by water (Galatians 2:20)
- *The unitive self now becomes conscious that the last stains of separation from God have been removed

2. United Will (John 4:34)

- *Becoming an ambassador of the Absolute
- *Prerequisite: surrender of selfhood; "self-naughting" which the trials of the Dark Night of the Soul tend to produce (Matthew 16:25; Colossians 3:3)
- *A new order of life is established, one which is in harmony with the Divine
- *The enhanced will is made over into the interests of the Transcendent
- *Living in the atmosphere of Reality, you become more real
- *You are released from the tyranny of the herd mentality

3. Seeing Deeply and Clearly (John 5:19-20)

- *The narrow consciousness of selfhood has given way to a broader consciousness of God's life
- *The unified soul has a genius for transcendental reality
- *The unitive life finds a triumphing force over which circumstance has no power
- *The unitive self is immersed in the mighty vision of truth, known now not as vision but as home
- *The unitive soul is not afraid or amazed by the light of divine presence and love--it is at home
- *The inner and the outer life come into a balanced wholeness
- *In the unitive state the "abnormal events" of visions, ecstasies, and illuminations sink into insignificance
- *The unitive soul lives in awareness of simple contact with the Divine
- *Everything is seen in truer proportion because you see it in relation to the Whole
- *You become freer because things are now under you; you are no longer under them

The Unitive Life (cont.)



4. A Source of Divine Life to Others (John 1:14,16)

- *Bearing witness to the practical qualities of the transcendental life
- *With the cessation of stress, power is liberated for new purposes
- *The unitive soul is made incandescent by the fire of divine love
- *The self humbly takes its place in the corporate life of Reality and wants to be the hand of God
- *Wherever you find a sterile love, a "holy passivity," you are in the presence of quietistic heresy, not the unitive life. Thomas Merton said, "You cannot be alone with the Alone."
- *The children of spiritual marriage are good works
- *To give our Lord perfect hospitality Mary and Martha must combine
- *The light of God's life is focused on the unitive soul like light on a lens; as it passes through it spreads out on every side
- *The call to the unitive life is not a call to comfort but to vigor
- *The unitive person becomes the insertion of a purified and ardent will into the world
- *The unitive soul brings the Real Presence out of its hiddenness and exhibits it before others

5. Procreative Power (John 5:24-26)

- *The unitive life is sharply intuitive and painfully practical
- *It is the fusion of two selves for new purposes
- *Spiritual marriage brings with it new duties and obligations like any earthly marriage
- *The unitive self becomes an agent of the Divine fecundity
- *The highest way to be like God is to become the cause of things which God desires
- *The fruit of the Spirit abounds in the unitive life
- *The unitive person is the helpmeet of the Transcendent Order
- *Unitive souls are the founders of spiritual families
- *Others are fertilized with the abundant vitality of the unitive soul
- *This reproductive power is one of the greatest marks of the unitive soul
- *The unitive person is in travail with the dreams of God