

Descriptions of Final Maturity

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)

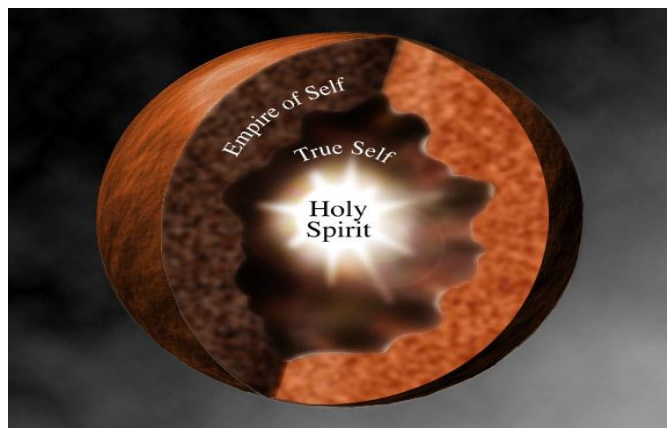
- * The narrow consciousness of selfhood gives way to a broader consciousness of God
- * The unified soul has a genius for transcendental reality
- * The unitive life finds a triumphing force over which circumstance has no power
- * The unitive self is immersed in the mighty vision of truth, known now not as vision but as home
- * A unitive soul is not afraid or amazed by the light of the Divine Presence--it's 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

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 mature 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



Abiding Intimacy

- a. Relationship with God moves from personal to intimate to organic
- b. John 15:5 (Message) I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you are joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant.
- c. Organic life with God is characterized by:
 - Rest
 - Trust
 - Surrender
 - Awareness
 - Simplicity
 - Lack of striving
 - Seeing, not trying to believe
 - Praying, not trying to pray

United will

- a. You want what God wants

Seeing deeply and clearly

- a. Life becomes more transparent. Awareness of God is continual. Depth of insight into self and others increases

A source of divine life to others

- a. All of your life becomes a revelation. The fruit of the Spirit are produced in bumper crop

Procreative power

- a. In your divine assignments others are impregnated with the Holy Seed