

# What is Christian Mysticism?

By Mouse (Caretaker)

The easiest way to explain Christian mysticism is to outline what it is not.

## **Christian mysticism is not New Age, channeling or psychic ability**

In our day and age the average person is bombarded with false teachings -- that do nothing more than confuse and mislead a person into dangerous areas. Many people who practice the New Age movement or psychic channeling call themselves mystics. Christian mysticism is as old as the Bible and as holy as God himself. A Christian never chooses to be a mystic they either find themselves thrust into it by God or they feel a tremendous calling in their heart.

Throughout Christian history the world has produced great Christian mystics which left us a daunting number of books and writings. Some are good, others can be painful to read because the world of Christian mysticism can be a long and painful one. I can assure you it is much easier to be a New Age mystic or psychic mystic than a Christian mystic.

Easier yes but 1000 times misleading and dangerous. Be on guard for any false teaching and be extremely careful about what you read on mysticism. In 1988 the Lord by his Holy Spirit, commanded me to throw out all the books in my library and only keep the Bible. This was not easy to do and in fact like an addict I was strangely drawn to the books God forbid me to read.

I am not saying that you should throw out all your books but there was great wisdom in what God told me to do. For me there was great comfort in knowing that everything I was experiencing was found in the Bible. As well there was great comfort in knowing I was being taught strictly by God's holy Word.

## **Christian mysticism it is not outside the Bible**

All the great Christian mystics and the great theologians agree that the Song of Solomon or the Song of Songs was put in the Bible to reveal that God desires and loves us as his beloved. The Song of Solomon outlines not only human marriage but defines divine marriage between God and the soul. That is the revelation Christian mysticism reveals, it is the intimacy walk and the path where we find who we are in God's eyes.

It is the kingdom of God Christ spoke of, it is the wedding feast Revelations

writes about and it was the meat Paul desperately wanted to teach on but was unable to.

Some Christians tend to believe the bride of Christ is a symbol for the church as a whole. This is not incorrect but they refuse to go any further with their understanding. In essence by taking that stand they also say that Christ died for the world as a whole and not individuals. Most Christians shudder at such a thought, in fact 99% of Christians will explain to a new convert that Christ died for them personally. Meaning even if there was only one person on the earth, you, Christ would still have died on the cross.

Christian mysticism says the same thing about the bride of Christ. That God is madly in love with you, the individual. That in the fullness of salvation we find ourselves married to God. We are the beloved, each of us is the beloved. That is the love that brought Christ down and the love that raises us up.

### **Christian mysticism is not complicated.**

I have the honor of being taught by God himself. God purposely orchestrated it that way, against my will. I do not say to anyone that they should do what I have done because my way was extremely hard. It is my prayer and hope your way is easier and more secure than mine ever was.

But I can say to you in full assurance that God is trustworthy and if given the opportunity he will lead you himself.

My way in a nutshell was God plucking me out of the world stripping me of all human books, advisers, teachers, and removing from me a clear road to walk. In the beginning God asked me one question before he did anything. The question was "do you trust me completely and can you give me blind trust?". I said yes, but that "yes" led me on a very isolating journey with nothing to hang onto but God.

As much as that sounds like I am some giant of faith or have the purity of saintly virtues that is not the case. I have not done well, to my shame I have walked most of the road fighting tooth and nail with the Lord. In the end he was always right on the mark and I regret not being the obedient child.

If you line up all the Christian mystics that ever were or shall be I have no doubt I am the worst example. But though I have lived like Jonah and fought with God like Jacob I do have some insights. Against all odds and through my sinful nature God has taught me.

## **Christian mysticism is not human wisdom**

I have been on this intimacy walk for 30 years and if I could compare it to something I would compare it as so:

It is a road that leads to the sunrise. At times the sun can be both blinding and scorching. The road seems to have no end and though it seems you get closer to the sun in reality the sun is always the same distance away. But the longer you walk the more the sun warms you, the warmer you get the more clothing you have to remove. At some point in the journey you'll find yourself naked on the road, nothing hides you from the rays of the sun. Now you live in the truth, now the sun speaks to you. You see now the sun in all its glory nothing hides it from your view and in turn the sun warms you in your nakedness.

The intimacy walk is between you and God .... no one else. If God is given his freedom to do as he pleases he will reveal the simplicity of the Gospel. God wants you to be naked within yourself, if one removes all pride, selfishness, arrogance, strength and disobedience what remains is who we really are. A small child clinging to their father and now we are the clay than can be molded by the Potter.

My advice is under no circumstances ever think you understand fully the Bible. After 30 years I have finally learned that the Bible and its meaning is as deeper than human comprehension can go.