

***Becoming A Footstool
For The Feet
Of Jesus Christ The Son
(The Master-Servant Relationship)
And For
The Feet Of God The Father
(The King-Friend Relationship)***

B. R. Hicks



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Chapter One

An Overview Of Jesus Christ's Headship Being A Footstool For The Feet Of God The Father

Some portions of Truth in the Word of God allow us to ascend to very high places of revelation. Other portions of Truth are designed to help us descend into new realms of humility. The Truths in this particular study, for example, show us how to descend in humility to take our place under the Feet of Jesus Christ the Son and under the Feet of God the Father.

Jesus Christ, the Word, is called the only Begotten Son of God because He is the Only One Who was brought forth out of God's Procreative Womb of Redemptive Exaltation and out of His Womb of Redemptive Humility. His birth in Eternity-Past is recorded in the eighth chapter of Proverbs.

The LORD possessed me [**Wisdom**] in the beginning of his way, before his works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. **When there were no depths, I was brought forth;** when *there were* no fountains abounding with water. **Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth:** While as yet he had not made the earth, nor the fields, nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was there: when he set a compass upon the face of the depth: When he established the clouds above: when he strengthened the fountains of the deep: When he gave to the sea his decree, that the waters should not pass his commandment: when he appointed the foundations of the earth: Then I was by him, *as one brought up with him:* and I was daily *his* delight, rejoicing always before him; Rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth; and my delights *were* with the sons of men (Proverbs 8:22-31).

Wisdom, God's Only Begotten Son, was generated by God the Father before the Universes were created because the Father ordained that Wisdom assist Him in His Work of creating the Universes. God, through His Son's All-encompassing Intelligence and Wisdom, created all things; He also preserves all things and maintains all things through His Son, Wisdom.

Wisdom, God's Son, is an eternal, unerring Governor and Guide of all mankind. Wisdom, God's Son, is the One Who presided over the birth of all things.

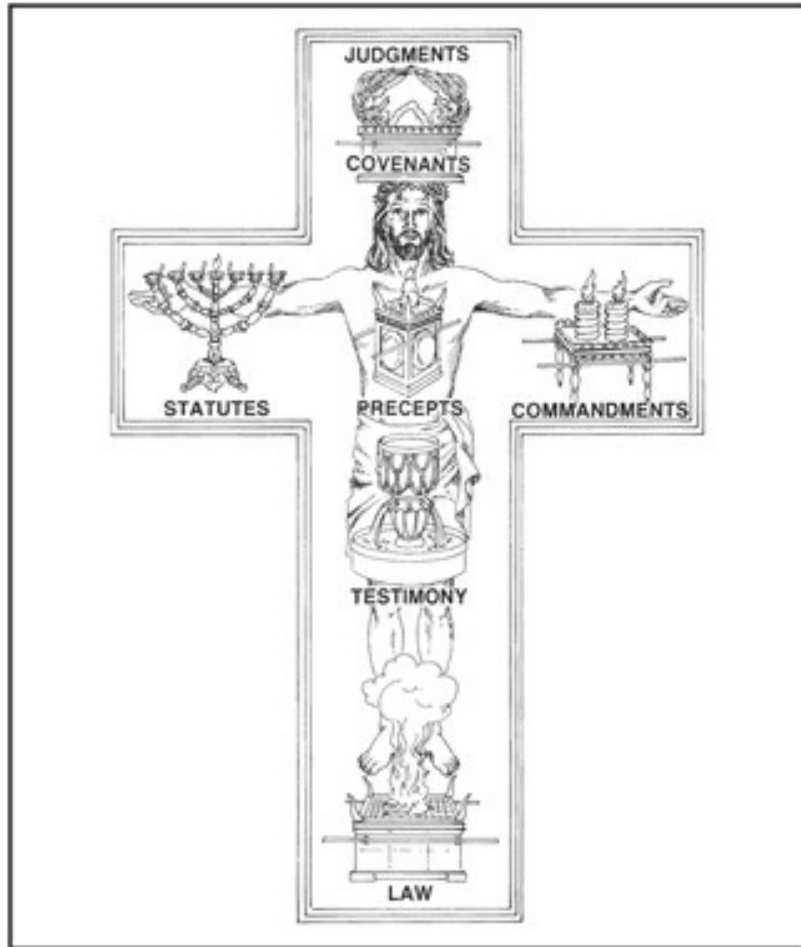
For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all *things* he might have the preeminence. For it pleased *the Father* that in him should all fulness dwell; (Colossians 1:16-19).

Wisdom is also the One Who calls mankind to turn aside from evil and wickedness. God has appointed His Only Begotten Son, Wisdom, to be the Controlling Force of all Life, both individually and collectively. God's Son, the Holy One (Wisdom), was the Father's Architectural Instrument that implemented His Master Plan in all Creation.

In Eternity-Past, God's Son, Jesus Christ (Wisdom), was brought forth in Spirit and Soul Form and brought up (the literal meaning of "brought up" is "Truthed up") under God the Father's Tutorship until He had reached spiritual maturity. After the Son had attained spiritual maturity, He did not become independent of His Father's Will, and exercise the Headship of His own Power and Authority. Instead, He offered the Glory and Power of His own Head to be a Footstool for His Father.

All the Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge that God the Father had placed within the Head of His Son, the Son gave back to the Father's Sovereign Authority. The Son then willingly and submissively placed His Head under the Father's Feet. The Son of God had no desire to use His Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge independently from His Holy Father's Will.

The Truth of the Son's subjection to His Father is pictured in type and shadow in the Old Testament Tabernacle or the Mosaic Tabernacle.*



The seven pieces of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle were laid out in the form of a Cross, picturing the Spiritual Stature of the LORD Jesus Christ, God's only Begotten Son, from His Feet up to His Head. The Fullness of Jesus' Spiritual Stature in the Old Testament Tabernacle was made visible when the Son took upon Himself a human Form or Body.

In the Courtyard of the Mosaic Tabernacle were the Brazen Altar and Brazen Laver. The Brazen Altar with its blood and supernatural Fire portrays the Feet and Legs of Jesus the Son. The Brazen Laver with its Supernatural Water out of the Rock portrays the Loins of Jesus the Son and depicts the cleansing, sanctifying, and regenerating Waters of His Living Word.

In the Holy Place of the Mosaic Tabernacle were the next three pieces of furniture: the Golden Altar, the Golden Candlestick, and the Golden Table of Shewbread. The Golden Altar, with its Incense and Prayers, portrays the Heart of Jesus the Son. Occupying the central position in the Holy Place, the Golden Altar joined the vertical bar of the Cross to the horizontal bar. The Golden Altar pictures the Fragrant Prayer that filled the Heart of Jesus the Son and also ascended into the Nostrils of His Father.

The Golden Candlestick with its illuminating, sevenfold Light portrays the Right Arm and Hand of Christ's Stature, and it pictures Christ Jesus as the complete Light of all Truth.

The Table of Shewbread, with its twelve loaves of Bread, portrays the Left Arm and Hand of Christ's Stature, and it pictures the Governmental Strength of His Truth.

In the Holy of Holies were the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat. Together, these two pieces of furniture, along with the Atoning Blood and the Law or the *Torah* within the Ark, portray the Head of the LORD Jesus Christ. The Headship of Jesus Christ consists of the Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge of His *Torah* and the Power, Authority, and Dominion of His Atoning Blood.

God the Father exercised His Ruling Power and Authority from the Cloud of *Kabode* Glory that abode upon the

Mercy Seat. God spoke, as it were, to Moses through His Son in the Mosaic Tabernacle.

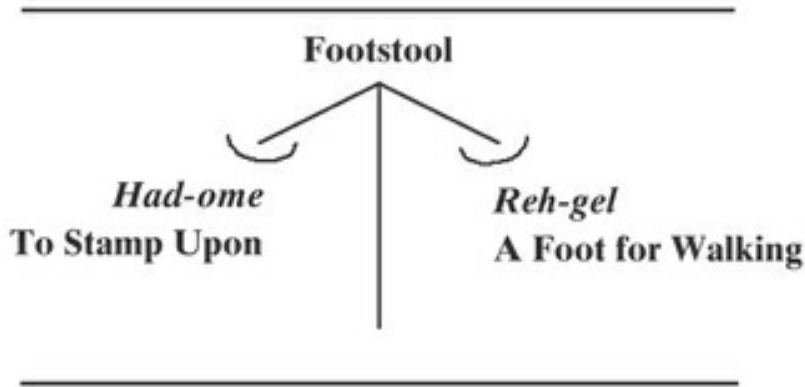
And when Moses was gone into the tabernacle of the congregation to speak with him, then **he heard the voice of one speaking unto him from off the mercy seat that was upon the ark of testimony, from between the two cherubims**; and he spake unto him (Numbers 7:89).

The Ark and the Mercy Seat, the Head of the Son's Stature, formed a Footstool for the Father's Feet, which King David confirmed.

Then David the king stood up upon his feet, and said, Hear me, my brethren, and my people: *As for me, I had in mine heart to build an house of rest for the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and for the footstool of our God*, and had made ready for the building: (1 Chronicles 28:2).

As a king and a man advanced in years, David could have remained seated. Instead, he stood up as a mark of reverence and respect for God, Whom he invoked as a Witness of his heart and his work. In David's heart was a desire to build a permanent Temple, a resting place, for the Tabernacle Furniture, which, as we have stated, pictured the Son's Stature, with the Ark representing Jesus' Head.

The Spirit of God, speaking through David, called the Ark the "footstool" of God. A *footstool* is a low stool upon which a person can rest his feet while seated. The word *footstool* is a dual word consisting of two special Hebrew words, *had-ome*, meaning to stamp upon, and *reh-gel*, meaning a foot for walking.



The Psalmist commanded us to prostrate ourselves before God's Footstool or the Headship of His Son.

Exalt ye the LORD our God, and **worship at his footstool**; for he is holy (Psalm 99:5).

We will go into his tabernacles: **we will worship at his footstool** (Psalm 132:7).

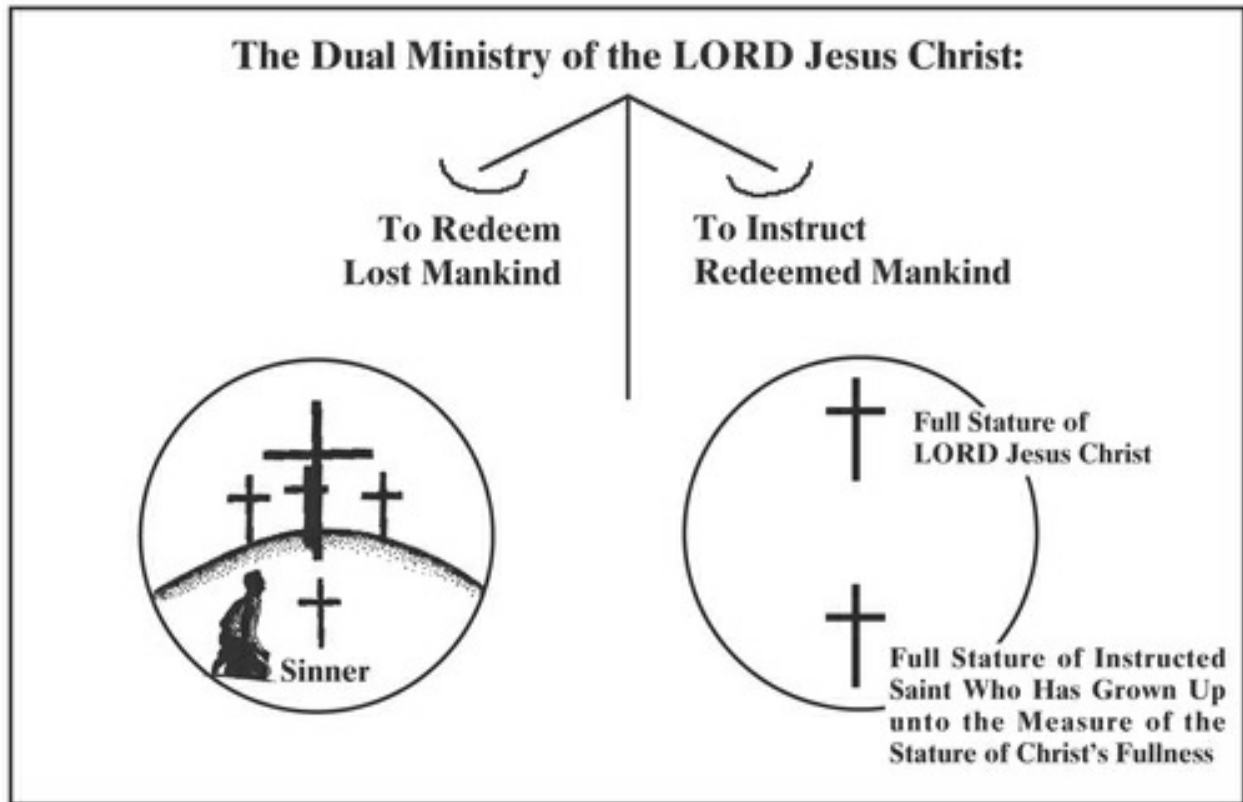
We glorify God the Father when we worship at His Footstool, which is the Headship of His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ. We give the Father Glory when we are grateful for the good Governance and Guidance of the Wisdom and Knowledge of Christ's Headship. The greater the Mercies and Grace of Christ's Headship in our lives, the more we are obligated to worship in praise and thanksgiving at His Headship, which is the Father's Footstool. When we draw nigh to worship Christ, our heart must be filled with grateful thoughts for His holy Headship in our lives, and He must be exalted upon the throne of gratitude in our souls. Jesus Christ is the Head over *all* things in our lives.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: **And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all** (Ephesians 1:18-23).

God has given His Son to be the Head, Governor, Ruler, and Guide over *all things*. The Father has advanced His Son to a place of all Power, Authority, and Headship. The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His precious nail-scarred Hands; and, in sweet submission, the Son places all His Power, Authority, and Headship under His Father's Feet, making them His Father's holy Footstool.

The Son willingly places His Head under the Father's holy Feet; therefore, we should willingly abase ourselves and put our surrendered heads under Jesus Christ's Feet. Then, we should arise, gladly, and give Glory to God by worshipping at the Ark of the Son's Headship, which is the Father's Footstool.

The Son's willingness to make His Head (represented by the Ark of the Covenant) a Footstool or Resting Place for the Father's Feet shows the humility position or total subjection of His Headship to the Father's Authority. The LORD Jesus Christ, the Son, came down into this world and went to the Cross in order to redeem fallen mankind from his sinful state and to instruct redeemed mankind in his spiritual education and moral development until he can grow up unto the measure of the Stature of Jesus Christ's Fullness.



The greatest desire of Christ's Heart is for a saved person, through Union with Him, to grow up in His Spiritual Stature so that the person can know and enjoy the same beautiful Oneness of Relationship that Jesus the Son and God the Father know and enjoy. Seemingly, however, few Christians understand the connection of the Oneness of Relationship between the Headship of Jesus Christ the Son and the Feet of God the Father.

In order for us to grow in our Spiritual Stature and attain unto the Head-realm maturity of Jesus Christ, the Son, we must begin to surrender for the headship (authority, leadership, and command) of our carnal man to be put under the Son's Feet. Likewise, after we have grown up into full spiritual maturity in Christ's Stature, we must experience the headship of our Spiritual Man being joined to Christ's Headship and, thence, this Union of our headship with His Headship becoming a footstool under the Father's Feet.

* For a detailed study of the Mosaic Tabernacle, read: B.R. Hicks, [*Precious Gem In The Tabernacle*](#); (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1961).

Chapter Two

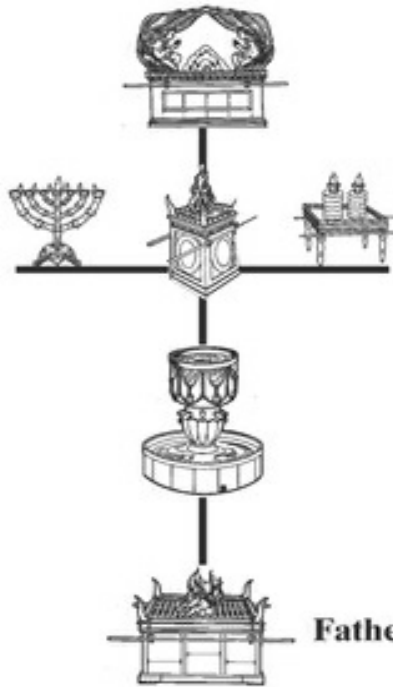
Our Old Man's Carnal Headship Must Become A Footstool For Jesus Christ The Son

The LORD Jesus Christ, the Son, will not assume His Headship in our lives, giving us the benefit of His Mind (His Redemptive Understanding, His Revelation Wisdom, and His Satisfying Knowledge) unless we *willingly* bring our carnal headship (authority and dominion) and place it as a footstool under His Feet.

The Father gave the Son all His Blessings, Benefits of Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, and Gifts of Power and Authority because the Son willingly surrendered His Head to be His Father's Footstool.

Likewise, when we bring our carnal head, by faith, and place it under Jesus Christ's Feet, He treads out our carnal thoughts, leaving in their place His wonderful Thoughts of Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge.

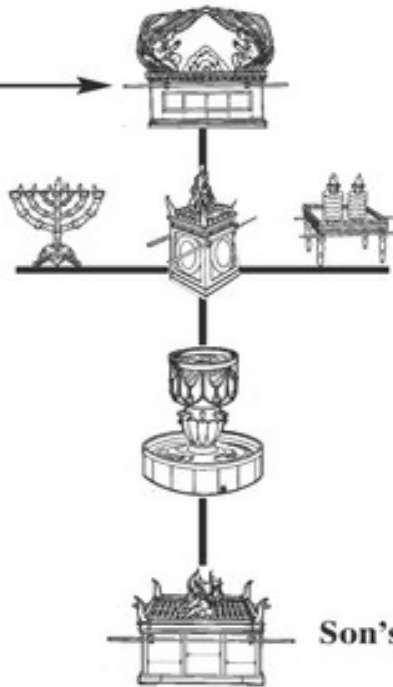
Father's Head



Father's Feet

The Son Received Blessings, Benefits, and Gifts from the Father because He gave His Head to Be a Footstool for the Father's Feet.

Son's Head



Son's Feet

Jesus does not ask us to accept the Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge of His Headship by blind choice, without our having experienced it first. Christ lifts us up in His Spirit, by gift, to give us a *foretaste* of His glorious Love and the infinite, divine Joy that exist in the Full Stature of His Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge, from His fiery Feet up to His holy Head; then, we can make a choice for His Headship from our experiences.

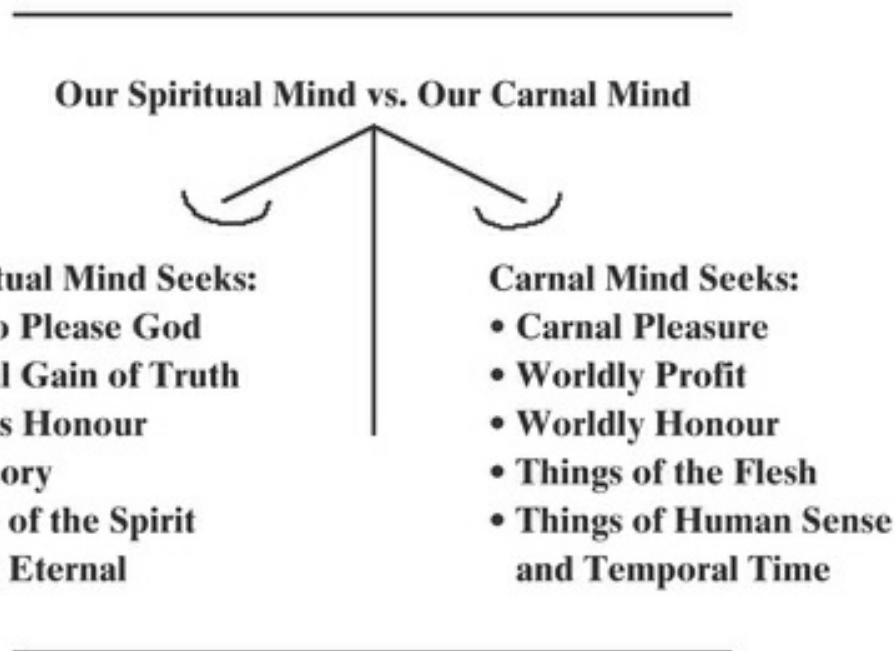
Since growth is progressive in the spiritual realm, just as it is in the natural realm, we cannot expect to attain Head-realm spiritual maturity all at once. Therefore, if we desire to know Jesus Christ and the Fullness of His Spiritual Stature, we must begin our spiritual education at the Brazen Altar, on the Blood side, which is comparable to one of Jesus Christ's Feet and one of His Legs.* Our first experience as a born-again believer is a gift of Christ's precious Blood that was shed for the remission of our sins.

Our new Spiritual Man, who is conceived by the Blood of Christ Jesus, has the privilege to choose to progress in spiritual growth by feeding on the Word of Truth until he comes to the measure of the Stature of the Fullness of Christ. However, in order for our new Spiritual Man to ascend in spiritual growth, the carnal nature of our old man, which all mankind has inherited from Adam the First, according to the flesh, must descend into Death and become a footstool for Jesus Christ.

Our carnal nature or our carnal mind is an enemy of God.

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because **the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.** So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God (Romans 8:5-8).

We can tell whether we are spiritually minded or carnally minded simply by taking note of what is always on our minds.



Both the malignity and misery of carnal-mindedness and the unspeakable Blessing and Glory of spiritual-mindedness are revealed in God's Word.

Spiritual-mindedness becomes Life and Peace because it seeks the paths of righteousness and holiness.

Our carnal mind is an enemy of God; it alienates our soul from God. Our carnal mind opposes God's Master Plan and Purposeful Will; it rebels against His Authority and Headship, spits in His Face, spurns His Bowels of Mercy, and hinders His Kingdom. Our carnal mind is at enmity with God, the Creator, Owner, Master, and Ruler.

Nevertheless, God promised His Son that He would put all enemies under His holy Feet!

The LORD said unto my Lord, **Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool** (Psalm 110:1).

The Father invited His Son, the LORD Jesus Christ, to sit on His Right Hand until all enemies, all carnal minds, are brought to a decisive defeat under His Feet.

Christ's Feet of Blood and Fire are infinitely able to tread out the enmity of our carnal minds, transforming them into the Likeness and Image of His own Humble, Holy Mind.

Our second experience, when we desire to know the Fullness of the Son's Stature, is the Fire-side of the Brazen Altar, signified by the Son's other Foot and Leg. This experience is the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and Fire, which is also a gift, just as is our Salvation. The Fire of God's Spirit burns out the wood, hay, and stubble of the carnal mind, sanctifying it and transforming it into the Image and Likeness of Christ's Humble, Holy Mind.

Third, as we desire to know Jesus the Son in a still great way, He will lead us up to the Brazen Laver or to the Loin section of His Stature. Here, we find the gift of the precious Name (Nature) of the LORD Jesus Christ, His Death, and His Resurrection Life.

As our desire increases to know Jesus Christ and His Headship in our life, He continues to lead us onward and upward in His Stature to His precious Heart, which, although it is the third piece of furniture in the Mosaic Tabernacle, it is the fourth experience in our spiritual journey. Through Intercessory and Travailing Prayer at the Golden Altar, we begin to learn about the Meekness and Lowliness of Christ's Heart. If we want to be in the Bride of Jesus Christ, we cannot bypass this Golden Altar or Heart-realm experience in the Holy Place because the Bride must learn three classes of brokenness and tears: (1) Jesus Christ the Son's Tears; (2) God the Father's Tears; and (3) the Holy Ghost's Tears.

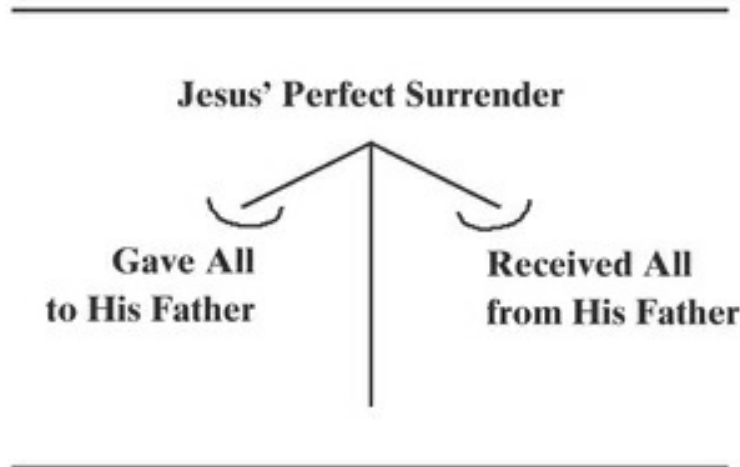
As our desire for Jesus Christ increases, He leads us from the Golden Altar to His Right Arm and Hand, which holds the Golden Candlestick or the complete Light of His Word of Truth. It is so beautiful and satisfying to have the precious, golden Light of the Wisdom, Understanding, and Knowledge that shines out of God's Word to illuminate the darkness of our understanding and make our spiritual pathway bright and radiant before us.

The precious, golden Light of God's Word allows us to discover the things about God and the things about ourself, which otherwise we could not know. God's Word shows what is amiss in our life. It reveals the things that are dangerous and destructive to our soul. God's Word is a Book of Instruction that directs us in His Work and His Way, thus preventing us from taking a false way. What a place of darkness, deceit, and Death the world would be without the kindly, radiant Beams of God's infinite Word of Truth!

After we have learned about walking in all the Light of the Word of Truth, and as we continue to desire to know more about Jesus Christ, He will give us a taste of the Strength of His Shewbread in His Left Hand. At the Table of Shewbread, we are privileged to learn and to know the Governmental Strength of His Word that sustains, keeps, and enables us to resist the opposing forces of the enemy that come against us.

As we continue to desire the LORD Jesus Christ above all persons, places, and things, He will lead us to the very Ark of His Headship, with its Mercy Seat. He will lead us, through faith, to behold the *Kabode* Glory and the *Shekinah* Glory upon the Mercy Seat, which are the Clouds of the Father's Feet (Nahum 1:3). When we get a glimpse of the Son's own Mercy Blood that was placed on the Mercy Seat, and when, through the eyes of faith, we look down into the Ark and see how His Atonement Blood has mended the broken Law, the *Torah* (which was broken because of our sins), our soul becomes overwhelmed with loving gratitude for the Saviour's Sacrifice. Hence, we willingly surrender our spiritual head to become a footstool for the Father.

The broken Law in the Ark was a picture of Christ, the Living Word, Who was broken on Calvary's Cross for our sins. We cannot look upon Christ's broken Word without seeing our own guilt that nailed Him to the Cross. Thus, if it had not been for Christ's Mercy and Grace, we would have been condemned to the everlasting Ice of Death and the burning Flames of Hell. However, before we experientially can be made One with the Headship of Jesus Christ the Son, we must surrender all, willingly and gratefully, to Him. Before we can say, "All thine is mine," we must say, "All mine is thine."



The Son gave all *to* His Father; therefore, He received all *from* His Father. Every believer who desires to be One with the Son and the Father must say the same thing that Jesus said. Through Jesus Christ the Son, we can say to the Father, "All mine is thine." It is also through the Son that we can say, "All thine is mine."

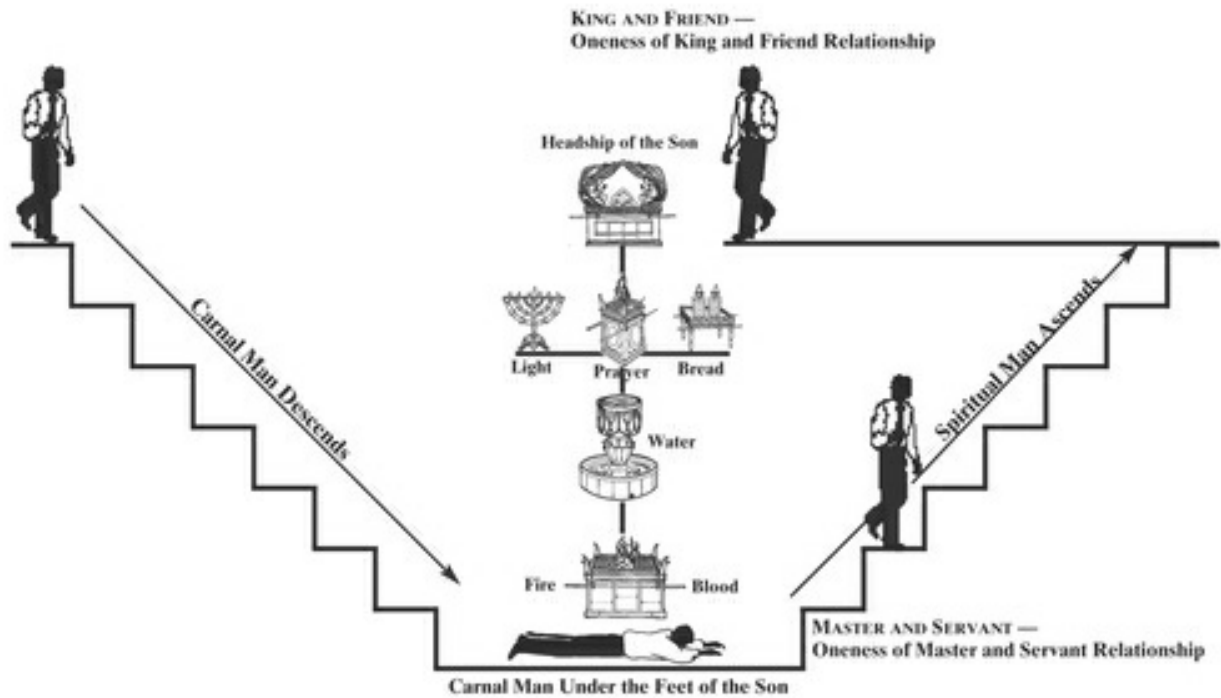
The Son owns nothing that is not given completely in the Father's service. Therefore, all that the Father had of His Unbegotten Power and Resurrection Glory was given unto the Son (Matthew 28:18). Likewise, if we give all our life, time, and possessions, placing them under the Father's Feet to be serviceable in His Kingdom, He will give us all of His Unbegotten Power and Glory through His Son Jesus Christ, to bless us and to benefit us as we have need of them. First, however, we must be willing to place our natural man, our natural headship, down under the Feet of Jesus the Son Who so willingly placed Himself under the Father's Feet to be broken for us on the Cross.

The experience of surrendering and coming under Jesus' Headship is progressive. In the process of climbing up in the Son's Stature, we daily must deny ourselves the temporal pleasure of following our own headship and seeking the satisfaction of our own human will; then, daily, we will enjoy the blessing and the benefit of the crimson, flowing streams of the precious Blood from Jesus Christ's pierced, nail-scarred Feet as they rest upon our head, making it a Footstool for the Son. Thus, we will be able to enjoy a Master-servant relationship with Jesus Christ and a sweet Union with God's Master Plan and Purposive Will.

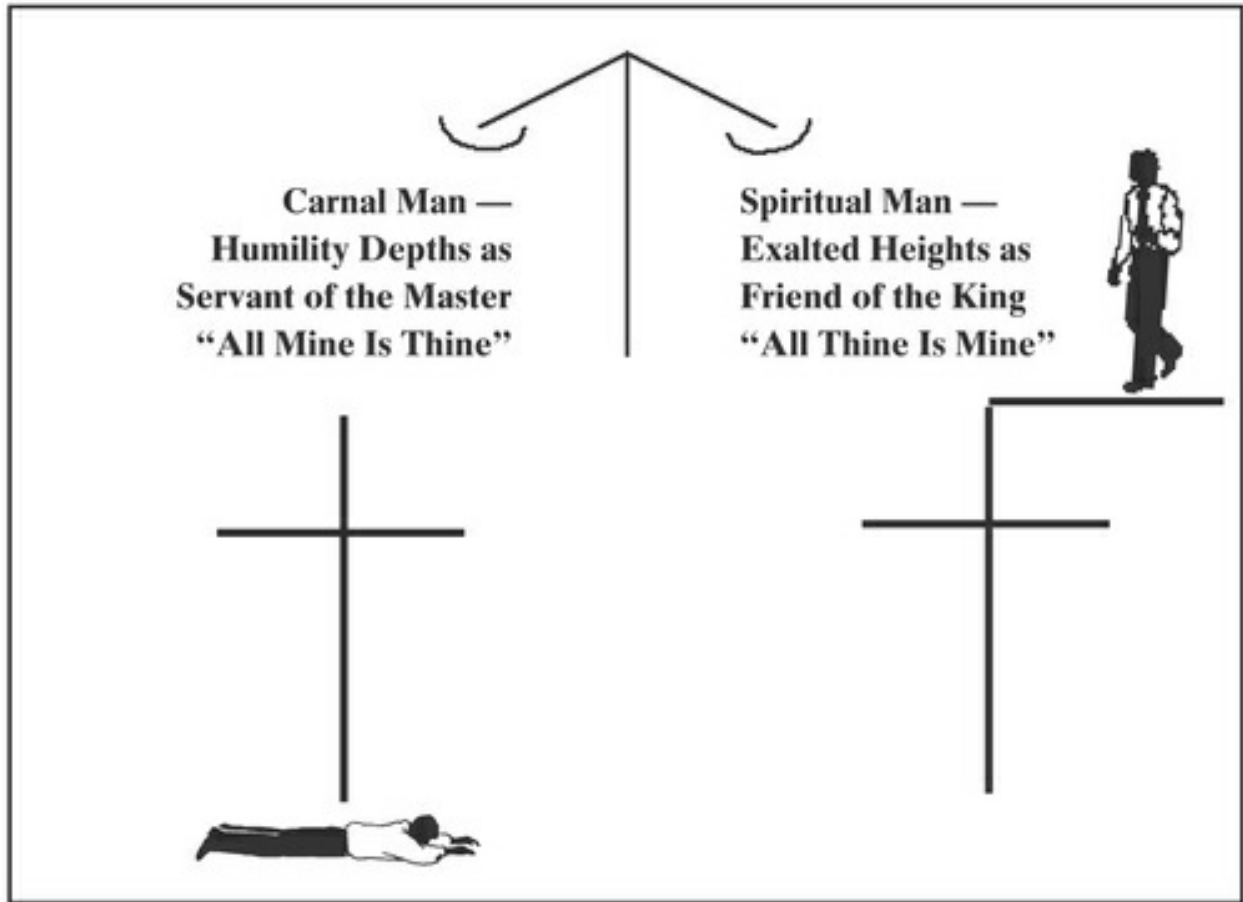
On one side of the Scales, this is a progressive experience; on the other side of the Scales, there is a real, initial experience in which, through a deliberate choice of our free moral will, we lay our natural headship and our natural desires down in the position of total subjection and surrender under Jesus the Son's Feet. In this spiritual, horizontal position, we demonstrate that we surrender our headship (our opinions, our thoughts, our natural desires, and our human longings) to be broken under His Feet. Remember, His precious Headship was broken by our sin and our transgression against His Word. Man deliberately walked over Christ's desire for Unity and Harmony with Him when man chose Lucifer's will.

Oh, what a Saviour we have! He is willing to take His precious Feet to tread upon the same carnal enmity of our head that broke and wounded His holy Head. He keeps on treading the enmity of the carnal mind until our head can become a sanctified, restful footstool under His Feet.

The goal that our natural, carnal man should have is to descend to the low place of becoming a footstool under Christ's Feet and taking on the Oneness of a Master-servant relationship. While our *carnal man descends* in humility, crucifixion, and self-denial, our *Spiritual Man ascends* toward his goal of being One with Christ's Headship, as he grows to spiritual maturity. This exalted experience permits us to know the LORD Jesus Christ in the most intimate way in a King-friend relationship.



Here, we see one of the most beautiful of all the paradoxes revealed in God's Word. Notice that, on one side of the Scales, our natural man goes into the depths of humility under Jesus' Feet, as we become a servant of the Master, while on the other side of the Scales, our Spiritual Man goes into the heights of exaltation in a Oneness of relationship, as we become a friend of Christ, the King.



Only God could devise and maintain such perfect balance between pleasure and pain and between exaltation and humility. Being a servant of Christ, the Master, is a great privilege; much *greater* is the privilege of being counted worthy to be a friend, a sympathizer, and supporter of the King.

Coming under the Son's Feet is just as real an experience as receiving His Blood in Salvation, just as real as receiving the Holy Ghost and Fire, with the evidence of speaking in other Tongues in the Baptism of the Spirit, and just as real as taking on the Name of the LORD Jesus Christ in the blessed, holy experience of Water Baptism. We have the privilege of prostrating ourselves under His Feet, as we say, "Jesus, here is my will. Here is my natural mind. Here is my natural life. Please tread out all the enmity I may harbour in my heart against You and Your Kingdom."

After His precious, nail-scarred Feet have walked up and down on our natural, carnal will, treading under its opposing, rebellious forces, then from our prostrate, humility position as a servant under the Master's Feet, we can say, "All mine is thine." Then, after our Spiritual Man has climbed the stairway to spiritual maturity and has been made One with Christ's Kingly Headship, from our exalted position of Union with the King, we can loudly cry, "All thine is mine."

Only as the Crucified Christ works Death in our natural, carnal man can we lay hold of the treasures of His Humility Truth under His Feet. Likewise, only as the Resurrected Christ works Life in our Spiritual Man, can we lay hold of the treasures of His Exalted Glory and the Reigning Power of His Headship.

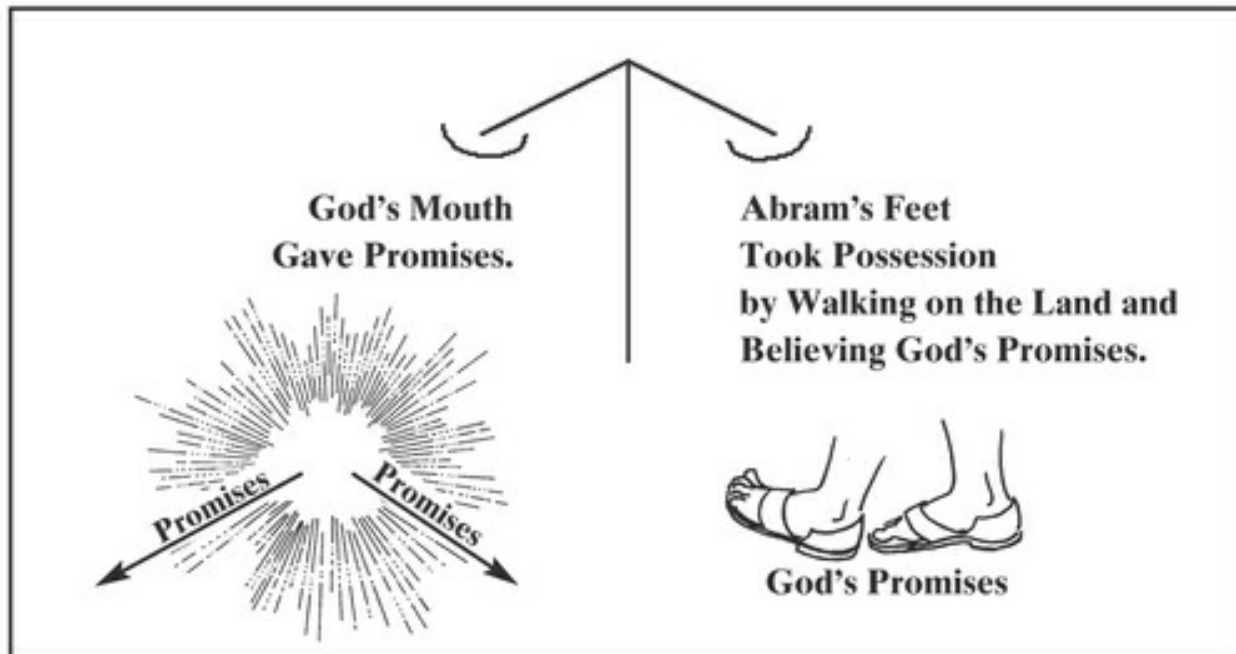
While Jesus Christ is walking on our natural man, all His Atonement Blood in the Head-realm flows downward through His Stature and our through His Feet to us. First, He possesses us as a servant; and, then, we possess Him as a King.

The Spiritual Principle of possessing a thing through the process of walking upon it was established in the Book of Genesis. After Abram had been separated from Lot, the LORD spoke to Abram, telling him to arise and walk through the land that was to be his possession.

And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered. **Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee** (Genesis 13:14-17).

After carnally minded Lot had been separated from Abram, God renewed and ratified the Promise that He had given to Abram when He had told him that he would inherit Canaan's Land. After Abram had manifested his humility through his self-denying condescensions to Lot, God visited him with His divine Grace and Favour.

Abram willingly allowed Lot to take a choice part of the land; then, God came and confirmed Abram's right to the *whole* land. God comforted Abram by assuring him that the land would remain as a possession to him and to his heirs *forever*. Momentarily, Lot had the better part of the land, but *eternally* Abram had God's Promise. God's Mouth gave Abram the eternal Promise of the land, but Abram's feet had to walk through the land in order to take possession of it.



Abram had to join his feet to the Promises of God's Mouth. By Promise, Abram had all the territory of Canaan's Land that his eyes beheld, but his experience of possession came as he put his feet upon the length and breadth of the land.

God required Abram's descendants, the Nation of Israel, to work by the same Spiritual Principle. Canaan's Land was Israel's by God's Promise. Nevertheless, in order to possess it, she, too, had to put her feet experientially upon the land and upon the necks of her enemies in the land. When Israel put her feet upon the necks of her enemies, she made a visible demonstration of her established headship in the land, yet it was not *her* headship but the LORD's, Whom she served. By putting her feet upon her enemies' necks, Israel made a demonstration that her enemies had been brought into subjection under the Feet of the LORD's divine Headship.

Likewise, in the spiritual realm, our natural man must first descend to the prostrate position under Jesus Christ's Feet and become His possession through letting His Feet walk upon the "earth" of our old man. Then, our Spiritual Man can ascend in the Son's Stature. The more we ascend to see Jesus, the more we want to descend in order to give ourselves completely to Him to be possessed by Him. When we ascend to the Head-realm and receive a fresh, new vision of Jesus' Merciful and Gracious Headship, it enables our natural man to descend humbly and to say, "Jesus, I give my natural, carnal will to You. I willingly lay it under Your precious nail-scarred Feet."

This initial experience does not mean that all of the old rebellious life has gone out of our human will. It simply means that once Jesus Christ puts His Feet upon a human will that has been freely offered to Him, then that human will can no longer be the same because Jesus has begun His possession of it. The human will cannot assert itself in the same, forceful way that it previously has. Jesus did not say that all of the old rebellious life of our human will

would be dead the moment it went under His Feet; Abram did not possess all the land with his first few steps. However, as he kept on walking, he possessed it in its length and breadth. Likewise, as Jesus Christ keeps walking up and down on our human will, He ultimately will completely possess it. If we keep putting our human will under subjection to His Feet, in due season, the Crucified Christ will slay the rebellion and the enmity of our will, and the Resurrected Christ will lift it up in the newness of His Surrender and Obedience. Thus, our human will can possess the same loving surrender to the Father's Will that Christ Jesus the Son possesses.

I praise God for a real Way that will make us real, if we let it. We can scream, "All thine is Mine," all we want to, hoping that Christ's Glory, Power and Authority will fall upon us; but screaming words will not work for us unless we first have descended, by choice, and laid down our natural, carnal will under Christ's Feet and let Him walk up and down on our will. Then, when we have ascended by growth to the place of Jesus' Headship, we will live and abide by His Governance and Guidance. When Christ Jesus sees us in the low place of humility in the Crucified Christ and in the High Place of the Resurrected Christ, He will give us the overflowing streams of His Mercy and Grace from His Glorious Headship.

* For further study on spiritual growth, see: B.R. Hicks, [*Secrets To Spiritual Growth*](#); (Jeffersonville, IN: Christ Gospel Churches Int'l., Inc., 1980).

Chapter Three

The Spiritual Man's Headship Must Become A Footstool For God the Father

Growing to the place of Jesus Christ the Son's Headship is not the end of the believer's journey toward spiritual maturity. This is clearly revealed in Israel's experiences as she traveled from Egypt to Canaan's Land. Israel's journey presents a picture of growing up into the place of spiritual maturity in God's Son, Jesus Christ.*

When Israel crossed Jordan, passing under the Ark of the Covenant, which pictured Christ's Headship, she demonstrated her spiritual maturity and Spiritual Marriage to the Son of God. However, Israel had more growing to do in Canaan's Land. She had to drive out the enemies in the Land and possess it. This was a picture of growing up in the Stature of God the Father, which presents the same Principles of Truth that are found in the Son. Therefore, Jesus said the following:

Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father;** and how sayest thou *then*, Shew us the Father? (John 14:9).

God led and instructed Israel in His Spiritual Truth in the wilderness so that she could grow up into His Son's Spiritual

Stature. Israel came under the Son's Headship at Jordan. Then, the Son's Headship led her in possessing the Land of Canaan or in possessing the Father's Stature.

In Egypt and in the wilderness, the Father and the Holy Ghost assumed the responsibility of leading Israel into the Son's Stature. Then, in Canaan's Land, the Son assumed the responsibility of leading Israel into the Father's Stature or in possessing Canaan's Land.

God's Word solemnly declares that the Father reveals the Son and that the Son reveals the Father.

All things are delivered to me of my Father: and **no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him** (Luke 10:22).

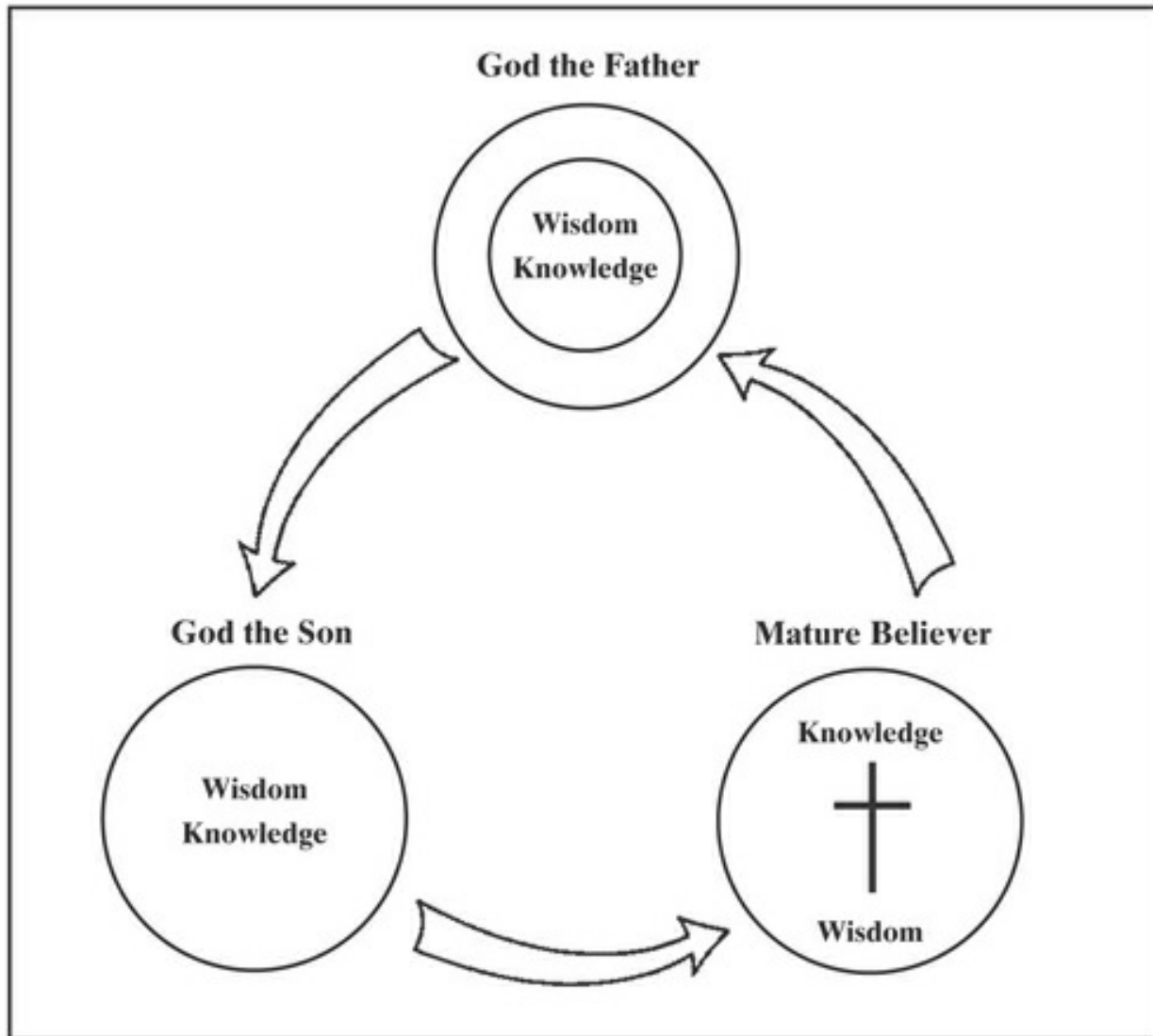
At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight. All things are delivered unto me of my Father: **and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him** (Matthew 11:25-27).

The Father and the Son are equal in Nature; however, in the Son's Ministry, the Power and Glory of all things have been delivered unto Him from the Father. There is such intimacy between the Father and the Son that no man can know either of Them except They reveal each other. The Father knows the Son because He begot Him in His own Bosom. And as the Son lay in the Father's Bosom in Eternity-Past, the Father knew every divine particle of the formation of the Son's Stature, in His Spirit and Soul Form.

After the Father had begotten His Only Son, He set Him at His own Right Hand to "Truth" Him up unto full Stature (Proverbs 8:30).

The Son knows His Father's Teachings and Instructions. The Father put *all* His Wisdom and Knowledge in His Only Begotten Son (Colossians 2:3). The Son knows the vacant places, as it were, that were left in the Father after He had put all Wisdom and Knowledge in His Son. Therefore, if man would have any acquaintance with God, it must be through Jesus Christ. The Light of the Knowledge of the Glory of God shines in the Face of Christ (II Corinthians 4:6).

Following is a diagram drawing out the circuitous journey of Wisdom and Knowledge from the Father to the Son, then to the mature believer, and back again to the Father.



The Father gave all His Wisdom and Knowledge to His Son Jesus Christ, Who, in turn, gives it to hungry believers; then, He leads them to the Father so that they can give their Wisdom and Knowledge back to the Father. To God be the Glory!

We cannot know the Father until we first have known the Wisdom and Knowledge in the Son that came from the Father. This is why it is imperative for the believer's natural man and his spiritual Man to come under the Son's Feet and Headship. He is the Only One Who knows the Stature of Truth from the Father's Feet up to His Head because the Father put that Stature of Truth in His Son.

The Father's Stature is portrayed through the territory of Canaan's Land, from Jordan to Jerusalem. Israel's Possession of the land, with the Stature of Truth from Mount Sinai, picture the believer's return to the Father with the Wisdom and Knowledge that he has received from Christ, Who received the Wisdom and Knowledge from the Father in the first place. The enemies in the land picture realms of uncrucified flesh in our hearts that must be driven out before we can fill the Father's Land with His divine Wisdom and Knowledge from His Son. This is why Jesus prayed that His Disciples would be One with Him and with His Father (John 17:21).

If we, as believers, return to the Father with a Full Stature of Wisdom and Knowledge that we have received from Jesus Christ, and if we give all of it back to the Father, Wisdom and Knowledge will have finished its long, circuitous journey from the Father to the Son, to the Bride of Christ, and back to the Father.

The Ark of the Covenant, which represented the Headship of Jesus Christ, rested in God's Perfect Will in Gilgal and in Shiloh. The Ark helped Israel conquer Canaan's Land. Thus, the Son's Headship, as it were, led Israel to the

Father. Even after Israel had possessed the land in general, there still was Mount Zion, with its city of Jebus, to be taken. This city was inhabited by the Jebusites. Also, Solomon's Temple still had to be built. Mount Zion represents the Stature of the Holy Ghost. Thus, Israel's journey from Egypt to the possession of Mount Zion portrayed her spiritual birthright to possess the Spiritual Stature of the Son, the Spiritual Stature of the Father, and the Spiritual Stature of the Holy Ghost.

Israel's journey through the Son's Stature, the Father's Stature, and to the Heights of the Holy Ghost's Stature.

**STATURE OF THE HOLY GHOST
Mount Zion**



STATURE OF THE FATHER

Jerusalem



← **Headship of the Father**

Shiloh



Gilgal



← **Feet of the Father**

**STATURE OF THE SON
(Revealed by the Father and the Holy Ghost)**

Jordan



← **Headship of the Son**

Wilderness



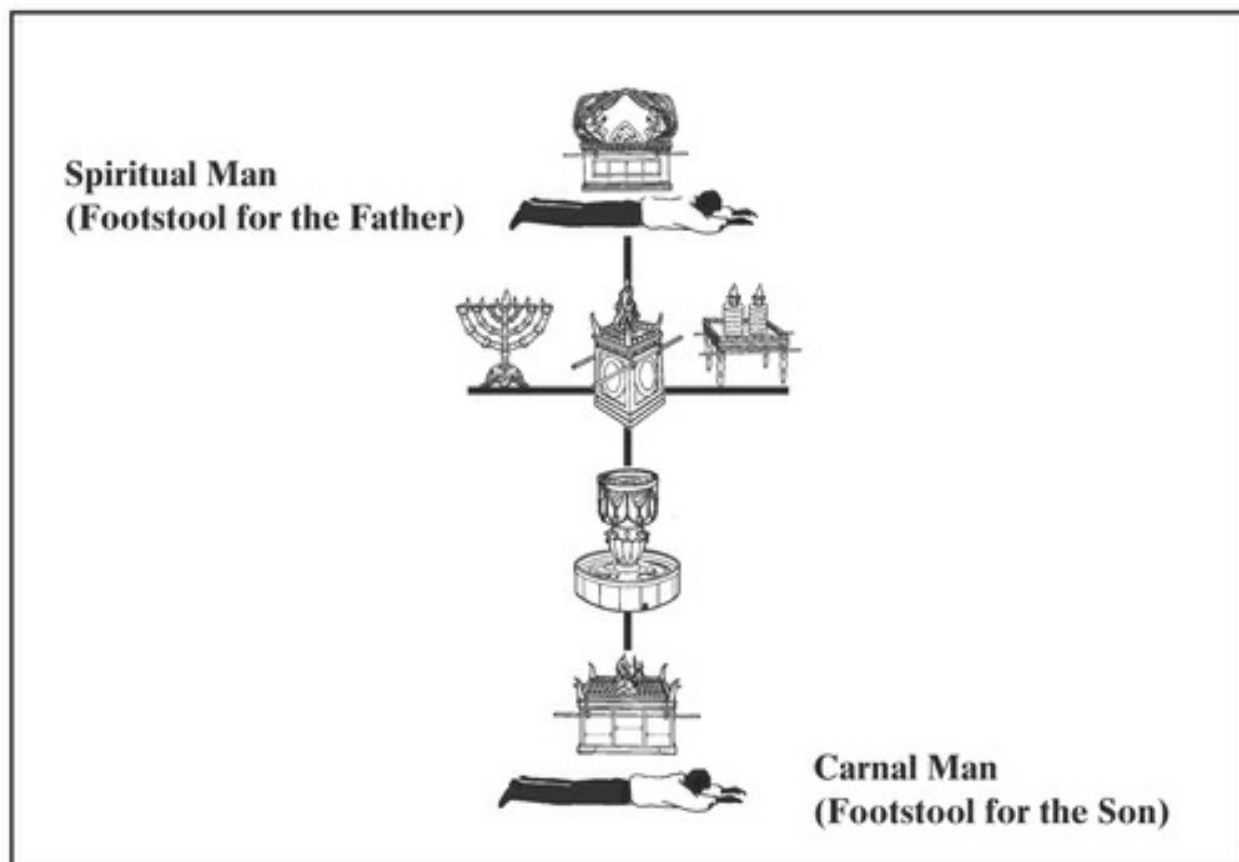
Egypt



← **Feet of the Son
Blood – Fire**

Water

As stated earlier in this study, our *carnal man must descend in humility growth* and come under the Son's Feet, while our *Spiritual Man must ascend in exalted growth* of Wisdom and Knowledge of the Truth, up to the Son's Headship, *uniting with His Head*, which is the Father's Footstool. Thus, our *carnal man becomes a footstool for the Son*, and our *Spiritual Man becomes a footstool for the Father*.



The Parable of the Prodigal Son depicts the Spiritual Man's total subjection to the Father.

And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to *his father*, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to *me*. And he divided unto them *his living*. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, **there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want**. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. **And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.** And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, **his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.** And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But **the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.** And they began to be merry. Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to *his father*, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found (Luke 15:11-32).

Each of the three parables recorded in the fifteenth chapter of Luke reveals a particular realm of God's Love. The Parable of the Lost Sheep shows the Son's Love in the Shepherd-sheep relationship. So great was the Son's Love as the Shepherd of souls that He left all the Glories of Heaven to walk the dark mountains and valleys of this old world, searching for the lost sheep called mankind.

The Parable of the Lost Coin reveals the Spirit's Love for the Oneness of Spiritual Marriage relationship between God and the souls of men. The Spirit's Love for man's lost Bridegroom-Bride relationship with God, the Spiritual Marriage relationship between God and man, sent Him into the world to seek and search for the lost coin. This Love caused the Holy Ghost to come into this world, sweeping with Wisdom in the high places and in the low places, until every particle of silver belonging to the lost coin of this Marriage relationship be found.

God gave the *Parable of the Lost Son* to reveal God's Love for the Father-son relationship. His Love for the lost son-relationship made the Father watch and wait for the return of His prodigal son.

In the *Parable of the Lost Son*, the younger son made his first mistake when he demanded that his Father, Who was a picture of the Heavenly Father, give him his share of the inheritance, which included much more than material wealth, for the Father had vested much Spiritual Substance in his son. Then, the son took his Spiritual Substance of Wisdom and Knowledge, as well as his inherited natural assets, and went into a far country, where he wasted it all in riotous living. The son wanted to rule and reign over the Wisdom and Knowledge that actually belonged to the Father because what he took was a gift from his Father, through Jesus Christ. His wealth, both naturally and spiritually, was not his by right of inheritance. Yet he used it to exalt himself in the eyes of those in the far country. He made no mention about where he had obtained his Substance of Wisdom and Knowledge, but took unto himself the glory and honour for having amassed such a sizeable fortune. All seemed to go well as long as his wealth lasted. However, since the son did not know how to *obtain* true prosperity, he did not know how to *keep* it. When famine came to the land, he found himself in want because he had lost his Wisdom and Knowledge.

Willful separation from the Fountainhead of all Wisdom and Knowledge in Christ Jesus brings great poverty, famine, and humiliation. May God grant us the Wisdom and Knowledge to appreciate the Father and His House. He is the Source of all our Blessings and the Source of all our Life.

The younger son was in want, but, at this point, he was not ready to humble himself and come under his Father's Headship; therefore, he joined himself to a citizen of the country in which he was living. Instead of bringing blessing and pleasure to his life, the unequal joining took him to the pigpen — to pain and great humiliation.

Swine, according to Jewish Law, were unclean, despicable creatures. Yet, the son of noble birth found that it was his responsibility to keep alive these unclean creatures of low degree. It would be difficult to think of a greater humiliation for a son of Abraham.

Just as there are swine in the natural realm, so also are there unclean swine-spirits in the spiritual realm. It is impossible for a believer to join himself to the world, the flesh, or the Devil without also having to feed the unclean swine-spirits that are associated with these far countries.

Since no natural Jewish father would have chosen for his son to feed swine, we know that it was not the Heavenly Father's Will for His children to pour out their lives as servants of unclean swine-spirits. The longer the son in the Parable stayed in the pigpen, the greater became his desire for the clean, wholesome food of Wisdom and Knowledge that he had known at his Father's Table. Natural husks cannot satisfy the physical needs and longings of a man, and neither can the worldly, fleshly husks of this life satisfy the eternal cravings of the immortal soul. Only the Word of God and the Spirit of God can satisfy man's soul and spirit.

The son left his Father's house as a king; he went out ruling and reigning over his Father's natural and Spiritual Substances. When he said, "Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me," he had visions of exaltation on the pleasure side of the scales. No thought of suffering, poverty, famine, or humiliation on the pain side of the scales crossed his mind. He had no thought whatsoever of changing his Father's companionship for the company of swine. He never pictured himself as being despised, deserted, and hungry. Nevertheless, all these things came his way because he refused his Father's Will.

God knows how to bring every one of us to the end of ourselves. His Perfect Will is for us to stay in the Father's House and learn a true heart-joining with the Father's Headship in our lives. When we put our spiritual head, with its substance of Wisdom and Knowledge, under the Father's Feet and allow Him to rule and reign over them, we become joined to His Headship. Unfortunately, most of us do not gain this class of appreciation for the Father's Will until He has permitted us to take our own independent will, which, somewhere along our journey, always takes us to a spiritual pigpen.

Without a doubt, the pigpen is a painful place to find one's self. The humiliation of being in such a low place burns to the core of man's innermost being. Yet going to the pigpen is not the worst thing that can happen to a

person. Finding ourselves in a pigpen is terrible only if we stay there, unrepentant of our wrong choices. For the younger son, the place of the most painful humiliation became the place of new revelation. When he came to himself, the younger son was not sitting on a soft cushion in a pew in a beautiful cathedral, looking through stained glass windows and listening to soft organ music; rather, he was sitting in the stinking midst of a pigpen, surrounded by only the husks of dried corn and being serenaded by swine. Into this most unlikely place, the Light of Wisdom and Knowledge of God's Truth shone afresh and anew. The son realized that being born in the Father's house did not assure him of a mature Father-son relationship, but that a true Father-son relationship would come only when he willingly chose to bring himself under subjection to the Father's Headship.

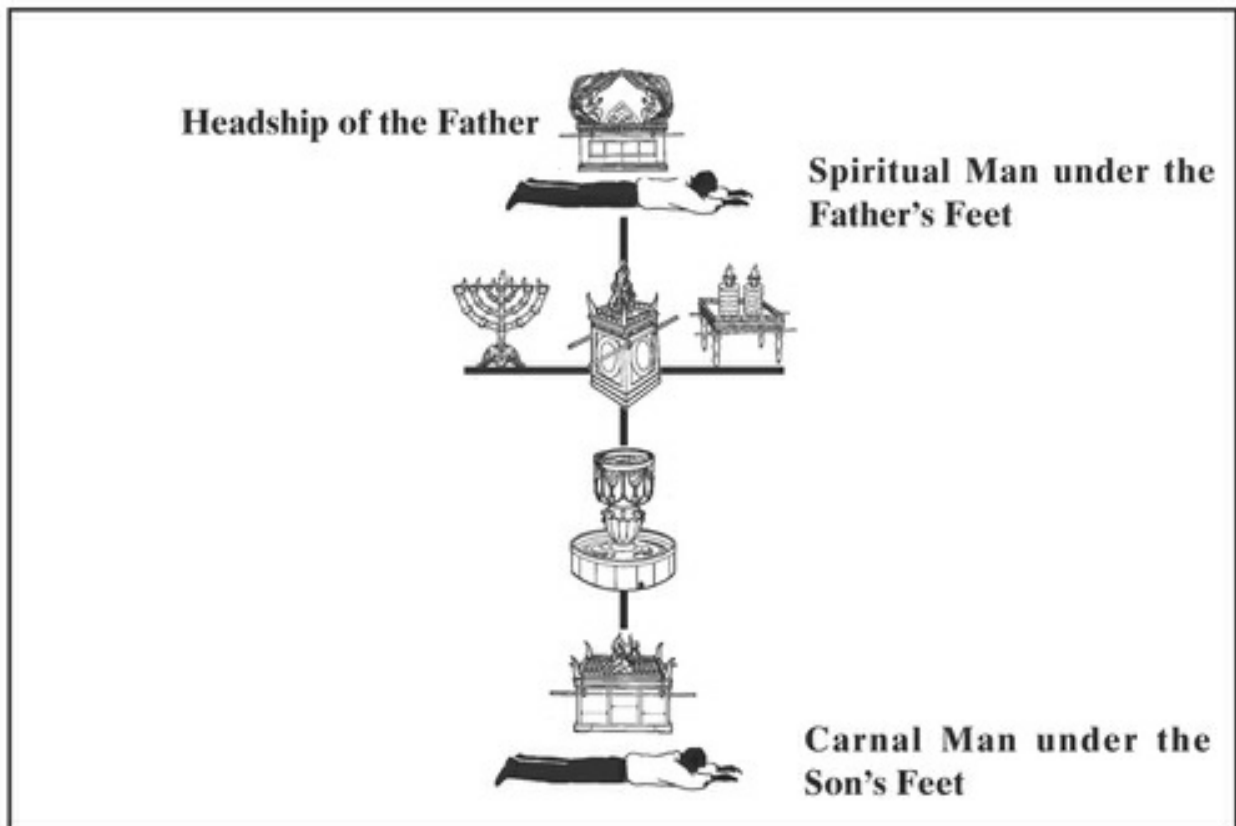
When the revelation came to him, the son did not take counsel with the citizens of the far country in which he then lived, nor with the swine he lived among. He purposed in his heart that he would return to his Father's house and humble himself as never before, so he said to himself:

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants (Luke 15:18,19).

We know that the son was doing some repentance because the vibrations from his heart began to tug on the Father's Heart Strings. Before the son got all the way home, the Father saw him and ran out to meet him. The prodigal son went out proud and haughty, but he came home with some true humility and self-effacement.

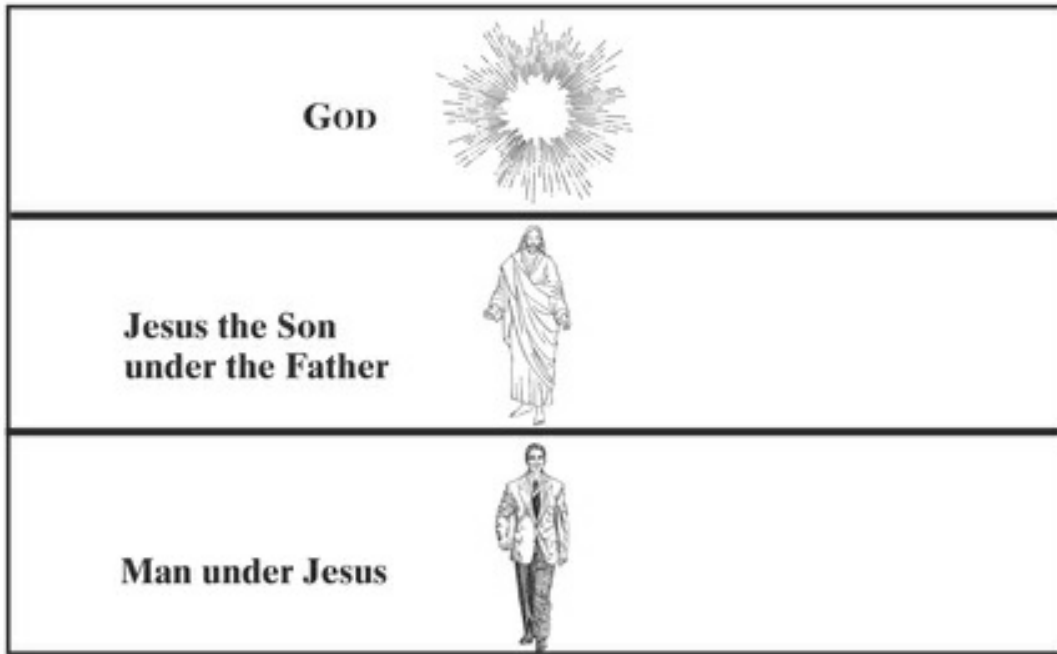
Instead of requesting to be restored to his position as a son, he asked to be received back only as a hired servant. Thus, in his heart and will, he took the position *under* his Father's Feet. With the son in this low position, the Father's Headship ruled and reigned over all the natural and Spiritual Substances that he had given his son. When the son got in the right position, the Father kissed him with the kiss of forgiveness and lifted him up to a place of honour and glory in the household. In so many words, the Father said, "Come here, son, I will put a robe on you. I will kill the fatted calf so that we can have meat as well as milk and bread on the table, and we will have dancing in the house." There was dancing when the Father's Headship began again to rule and to reign in His son's life.

The Parable of the Prodigal Son, in which the son brought his Spiritual Substance under his Father's Feet, is one example of the Spiritual Man being under the Heavenly Father's Feet.



Paul made reference to this Spiritual Principle in his first letter to the Corinthians.

Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, **and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you** (1 Corinthians 11:2).



Then *cometh* the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. **For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.** The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under *him*, *it is* manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. **And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be all in all** (1 Corinthians 15:24-28).

Jesus Christ must rule until He has put all enemies under His Feet. The Son must walk upon all our Pride of Revelation, our Pride of Redemption, our Pride of Satisfaction, and our Dominion of Death. The Father does not bring our fleshly hatred, wrath, strife, envy, and murder under His Feet; it is the Son's responsibility to rule over this part of our beings. When the Son has ruled until He has brought all enemies, from everywhere, under His Feet, He will turn around and put Himself under subjection to the Father. God is the Head of Christ, just as Christ is the Head of man.

The spiritual treasures of Wisdom and Knowledge are committed to our Spiritual Man — not to our fleshly man. The Knowledge of God's Word in our Spiritual Man increases as we pray and crucify our flesh, our carnal man. Nevertheless, our Spiritual Man has not been given the authority to rule and reign over the Spiritual Substance that God has placed within him. The Spiritual Man has no authority to say where he will give the Word that has been revealed and quickened to him, when he will give it, or to whom he will give it. Neither does the Spiritual Man have any say in how the Word will be received by others.

God taught me this Principle while my Spiritual Man was still very small in Stature, in comparison to what he is today. I had been teaching in some very well-known churches of different denominations in the city in which I lived; then, one day, God told me He wanted me to humble myself and to go preach in a mission on a certain street. This street was located in a very poor, run-down section of town, yet God said He wanted me to go there. God wanted me to be a nothing, as far as my proud friends were concerned, but only for a season. Immediately, my fleshly man jumped up to scream that this was ridiculous! People would think I was crazy. Who would come to hear the Word if they had to attend a mission in a rough part of town? If I could go in just a little different direction, I could share with everyone most of the message God had given me. If went my own way, more people could get what I would be sharing, but just a few people would come to a little mission. This carnal reasoning was part of my flesh that had to go under the Son of God's Feet.

In obedience to my Father's Command, my Spiritual Man and I went the way God directed — down among the drunks and the harlots who never did accept the Bride's Message that God had been revealing to me. Nevertheless, the Father was teaching me that He must rule and reign over His Spiritual Substance of Wisdom and Knowledge.

We must be willing to be hidden, and even rejected, if that is God's Will for us. Then, on the other side of the Scales, we must be willing to be a gazing stock if He so desires.

Again, the Father was faithful to teach me the lesson of being a gazing stock. Just a few days after I had received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, with the evidence of speaking in other tongues, a very wealthy and dignified friend of mine called me into her office. She, too, had received the Holy Ghost, but she would not tell other people about her experience because she was ashamed of it, and she was afraid that the leaders of the church she attended would find out and put her out of the church. As I sat in her office, she counseled me, saying, "Now, look, if you want a ministry in this city, you must not tell anyone that you speak in Tongues. Doing that will destroy what you want to accomplish here." That woman was ruling her spiritual possessions. She, not God, decided who heard about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. I have thanked God countless times that I did not listen to her fleshly, carnal counsel. Something rose in me that pushed my fleshly man down under subjection to the Son so that my Spiritual Man could stand up and say, "I'll testify about the reality of the Holy Ghost if I have to stand on a soapbox on the street corner to do it."

I never shall forget the first day that, with my Spiritual Possessions, I dragged my fleshly, carnal man down to the street corner to witness about my LORD and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I was so embarrassed and full of fleshly fear of being ridiculed that I could not open my eyes, but at least I was there with my accordion, playing and singing and testifying. I did not try to rule the Spiritual Substance that the Father had committed to me. As I stood there on the corner, I let Him pull out of my spiritual treasure house of His Wisdom and Knowledge whatever He pleased to share with whoever stopped to listen. In this situation, His Feet were on my Spiritual Man's head.

Some people may think that committing oneself to being under Jesus Christ's Feet and under the Father's Feet would be a terrible place to be, but they are wrong! These are beautiful, rewarding places in which to be, for it is when we are in these places of surrender and humility that we receive the full blessings that are to be found in the Stature of the Son and in the Stature of the Father.

The Psalmist David knew about the joys of being in the low position of humility and having the Son's Feet minister to him, as Christ walked up and down on his human will.

False witnesses did rise up; they laid to my charge *things* that I knew not. They rewarded me evil for good to the spoiling of my soul But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth: **I humbled my soul with fasting; and my prayer returned into mine own bosom** (Psalm 35:11-13).

In the face of false accusation, the fleshly, carnal man's normal reaction is to retaliate with a flood of accusation against the accuser. This, indeed, sets a wheel in motion, but it is a wheel of Death rather than Life. David knew this; therefore, when false witnesses rose up against him, he immediately put his human will down in the low place — down under the Son's Feet. He started humbling himself, bowing down low and praying for his enemy, just as he would have prayed for a friend, a brother, or even his own dear mother.

David knew that **God has a circular Will which, in time, brings everything that has been sent out from one's heart and will back to one's own bosom.** If David had prayed, "LORD, bring my enemy down to the ground; kill him," the LORD would have had to bring David down low, even to the place of Death and Destruction. However, David had nothing to fear as long as he brought his will under subjection and prayed, "LORD, be merciful to my enemy. Open his eyes so that he can see how he is grieving your Spirit by breaking the Unity in the Body of Christ. LORD, do whatever You have to do to take him further in Your Stature."

David did not need to be fearful about having any of his prayers returned to his bosom! David prayed for Mercy for his enemy, so he received Mercy. He prayed for his enemy to have his eyes opened, so David received sight. He prayed for Unity between God and man and between man and man, so David had Unity. He prayed for God to take his enemy on in his spiritual education and moral development, so David received Strength and Grace to progress onward and upward in his own spiritual education and moral development.

When we pray for our enemies to receive only good, it is as if we pray good for ourselves because God's Wheel will bring it back around to us. If we sow righteousness, we will reap righteousness.

Revenge may seem sweet to the fleshly man, but we pay a dear price when we take that route. Eventually, we will end up with all our revengeful prayers being poured back into our own bosom. It is much better, all the way around, for us to start pouring out tears of humility and surrender at the Son's Feet because everywhere the Son steps He

leaves a Spring, a Fountain, a Well, or a Stream of Living Water — Water that we ourselves have poured upon His precious Feet. It is impossible to have a beautiful garden in the natural realm without a plentiful supply of water. Likewise, our Spiritual Garden cannot bring forth the Fruits of the Spirit unless we put ourselves in the position for Jesus to walk up and down in the Garden of our hearts and leave Wells of Water everywhere He steps.

We cannot expect someone else to do our praying or our crying for us. If we want our Spiritual Garden to have Water, we must stay at Jesus' Feet until He breaks the hardness of our natural man. God loves a broken and a contrite spirit; and He loves tears. He is the Creator of our tear glands. Thus, He started His whole Wheel of operation of our tears coming back to us as Streams of Living Water.

God, in His Mercy, gives each of us something we can pour out upon His Feet. Then, He turns around and gives it back to us when we get down in the place of subjection under His precious Feet. Coming under Jesus' Feet is not a hurtful place. On the contrary, it is a place of living, sweet, satisfying Springs of Water. When Jesus starts walking up and down on our *natural* man's will, the first things He walks with are the tears we have shed at His Feet.

By the same token, what we pour out at the Father's Feet is returned to us when we take our position under His Feet and let Him walk up and down our Spiritual Man. Only God could have devised a Plan filled with the pleasurable satisfaction that comes through the workings of these Wheels. Let us be faithful in putting our natural man under the Son's Feet and our Spiritual Man under the Father's Feet because this is how we keep these Wheels moving.

Jesus' Feet minister joyous gratitude to us. Our lives begin to be changed the moment our hearts understand the Principle of Jesus' Feet having to walk on our natural man. Another life-changing revelation comes when our eyes are opened to see that He does not always come down into the privacy of our prayer closet to do this walking. Sometimes— very often, in fact — He walks on us through other individuals. Our whole attitude can be joyous if we realize that no one can walk on us unless Jesus permits him to do so. Thus, if our headship is being trampled into the ground, it is Jesus doing the walking — not some person. Once this is quickened to our hearts (not just our heads), we never waste precious time and energy, at least not for long, being angry with the human “foot.” Remember, after Jesus had been resurrected from the dead, He appeared in different Forms. He appeared to Mary, for example, as a Gardener. To the two Disciples on the road to Emmaus, He appeared as a Stranger. He can, if He so chooses, appear to us personally to walk upon our human wills, but He may choose to walk on us through some human form. If we learn to recognize that His Feet are using the human feet of some person in our lives, we will not get angry with the one who walks on us

The Book of Luke records the story of a woman who exemplified the joyous gratitude found at Jesus' Feet.

And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, and stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace (Luke 7:36-50).

Simon was like many people today. He did not completely know Jesus — at least not as a Prophet. Therefore, he was unable to discern rightly what was going on in his very own home.

By paying close attention to certain phrases in the text, we see the joyous gratitude that prompted the woman to put herself down at Jesus' Feet. In his heart, Simon called the woman a sinner. However, Jesus said, in so many words, “Whosoever is forgiven much will love much.” Thus, Jesus showed clearly that love comes *after* forgiveness.

Some people teach that we fall in love with God and, then, come to Him. This is thoughtless reasoning. We do not know love until we come to Jesus Christ. We get our sins forgiven; then, we love.

In verse forty-seven, Jesus said that the woman loved much. *Loved* is past tense. Since this was something she had done in the past, it is obvious that the woman had been saved *before* she went to Simon's house.

The woman's joyous gratitude for her Salvation drew her back to Jesus' Feet. When a person gets saved and has a truly heart-felt experience with Jesus, the fountains of that person's head usually are opened so that tears stream down his face. This woman was emotional that day; she cried. She endured great humiliation in order to pour out, onto Jesus' Feet, her tears of joyous gratitude for Salvation.

Simon's surly attitude shows that the woman had not received a personal invitation to be there. Thus, with his false accusation, this proud Pharisee walked all over the woman. Yet she took her place at Jesus' Feet, behind Him, and wept joyous tears of gratitude and love. She did not come as the Espoused Bride, who said the following:

Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth:...

(Song of Solomon 1:2).

No! By her actions, the woman said, "I am not worthy to get near His Mouth. I will get down, behind His Feet, and I will pour out my tears of joyous gratitude. I do not care what Simon or his guests may think or say. They can walk on me if they please. It does not matter. I am overflowing with gratitude and love for what Jesus has done for me."

Love and gratitude for her Salvation brought the woman to Jesus' Feet, but she did not stay there forever because Jesus exalted her with a new class of forgiveness. He *remitted* the sins she had committed since the time she had experienced Salvation. When the woman left Simon's house, she was clothed with the peaceable Garments of Righteousness.

Regardless of how far we go in God, we never should lose our joyous gratitude for our Salvation. Joyous gratitude will put us down at His Feet, weeping tears of appreciation for His ever having saved our poor lost soul. When we have gratitude for Life in the spiritual realm and in the natural realm, we will be thankful for every small blessing that comes our way. If we are eating a sandwich for example, we will say, "Thank You, Jesus, for this sandwich."

God wants us to be joyous over the Life He has given us. He wants us to put our two worlds, our natural life and our Spiritual Life, together. If we get a new pair of shoes or some new clothes, we should thank God for them instead of prancing around, thinking how great we look. We are supposed to enjoy our shoes and our clothes, but we also are supposed to give joyous gratitude to God for having given us the life and strength to work and earn the money to buy these things.

Every circumstance of life, whether pleasurable or painful, offers us an opportunity to lay our natural, carnal man down under Jesus' Feet and to lay our Spiritual Man down under the Father's Feet. By taking our position under their Feet, we, experientially, as well as theoretically, set the whole wheel of joyous gratitude in motion in our lives.

Once we have the wheel of natural and spiritual gratitude moving in our lives, the momentum of joyous gratitude builds up with each turn of the wheel, which brings ever-increasing measures of satisfaction to Jesus Christ's Heart and also to our own hearts.

Our whole life will be transformed, beloved, if we take the Truths in this lesson to our hearts and begin to practice putting the fleshly will of our natural man down under the Feet of Jesus the Son and the will of our Spiritual Man down under the Feet of God the Father. At all times, then, it will be possible to enjoy a Oneness of relationship with our LORD. Our natural man, from his place under the Feet of Jesus the Son, can know the Oneness of the Master-servant relationship; and our Spiritual Man, from his place under the Feet of God the Father, can know the Oneness of the King-friend relationship.



