

115.) Liebe ist Anbetung / Love equals Worship - Parminder Biant 05.05.2020

Parable relationships between human and divine:

God: Master / I: Servant

God: Parent / I: Child

But only small part of our live we are children, **most part we are adults**. Therefore God doesn't want that we stay always in this child/parent relationship with him. We should **grow up** in order to be completely his **counterpart**.

The definition of counterpart is:

equal, balance, partner, something that completes an incomplete project.

This is the relationship God wants with us - to be his equal partner!

The relationship that comes closest to this is marriage and friendship.

There is something unique in the marriage: 2 people become 1 flesh

Worship = love?

1 Joh: John always talks about love.

I have used worship and love freely interchangeably.

People have a problem with that, because we have a very rigid idea of what worship is.

We think that **worship is only between sth that is much higher than us**.

We have a problem with worshipping sth that is **equal to us**.

Worshipping humans must be a heretical thought for many.

I understand people's concerns, but as SDAs we should know better, because this idea of worshipping sth that is equal and not superior to you isn't sth new.

SDAs should know their history!

We need to love people is no problem, but when we should worship people it becomes blasphemous.

This problem originated where? 2000 y ago, when Christ came at his first Advent.

What did they accuse Jesus of? Read Paul and John:

Phil 2,2-: The problem 2000y ago had to do with worshipping your equal, your neighbor.

Jesus came as a human being. He was equal to us. That's why the Jews had a problem to worship him. How should they worship a human?

V.6: in the form of God.

This God is the father and he deserves worship.

Jesus was stealing the worship that was due to the father.

He made himself equal to the father and says this is not robbery.

He didn't think it's a problem to push the father out of the way and robbing him his right of worship

V.7: Where is this verse located? Which time or which geography? First Advent on earth. Jesus was born as a man, found in the fashion of a man.

But means, in contrary to, change of direction

V.8: also on earth

V.6: in heaven, in the form of God

Here he shows the contrast between heaven and earth.

John 5,16-18:

My father => Jesus is making himself equal with God. This was a problem for the Jews. He is calling himself the son of the father, the Messiah. This was blasphemy to them.

Go to the beginning of the great controversy, there are number of issues going on:

Lucifer and Jesus are equal, on one day the father tells Jesus to come into a secret meeting and he tells Lucifer that he is not allowed to come.

Lucifer begins to get jealous, God and Jesus come out of the meeting and make this announcement: They create a new planet, a new world.

God calls Jesus in front of everybody and says to them: come up and worship Jesus.

Lucifer said this is not fair, why should I **worship someone who is equal?**

That's one of the great themes in the great controversy.

Adam was made a little lower than the Angels.

What was God's plan? Adam should grow and grow and become equal to Lucifer or even higher than Lucifer. Adam should become the counterpart of God, which means he would be higher than Lucifer.

And Lucifer was chosen to do that work to train Adam into this job.

How should Adam take the place of Lucifer? Adam should be put over the Angels, on the same level to Jesus. There the jealousy of Lucifer began.

The concept of worship is easy when you have hierarchy. But created beings have a problem when they should worship equals.

The word **worship** comes from 2 different words:

Wor = worth, value

ship = as suffix it is to do with the condition or quality or status of sth

condition of value

(deutsch: Wert-schätzen)

To give honor to sth that has merit.

To recognize sth of value, give honor to it = worship.

To worship is recognize that it's beautiful.

To worship a beautiful picture for example is part of the definition of the word.

To worship a person of high rank.

The definition of worship is: extreme form of love and unquestioning devotion.

To go to church to worship God, bow when you speak to him, stand up when you sing - this is worship, but we could also call it dictatorship or indoctrination.

It can be true worship, but for most of us it's not.

True worship does say if it is **genuine** or not.

What makes worship genuine? Love!

The controversy began when someone should **worship someone who is equal.**

Lucifer was struggling to take this low person (Adam) and bringing him up to his level.

SDA should know that and it shouldn't come as a surprise where God wants us to have unquestioning an devotional love towards other people.

It's **beyond the golden rule, unquestioning devotion** to your spouse.

We are **required to worship humans**, because we are **supposed to have unquestioning devotion to the humans**.

That is what we are committed in our **marriage vows**.

Through richness or poverty, in sickness or in health, not looking at another person, only focusing upon this person. It's an **unwavering commitment or love to this person**.

That's the **definition of worship**, everyone who marries enter into this **contract**.

This concept has been established by God, no one marries a tree or a rock or an animal, we only marry humans and that are the ones we should worship.