



*The General Church of the
New Jerusalem*

*PERTH CIRCLE
November 2003*



*“He is Alpha and Omega, the
beginning and the end, the first and
the last”*

Conjugal Love - Passage 113

A rectangular screen had been set up in the palace in front of the doors, and behind it stood foreigners from Africa, who called to the natives of Europe, "Permit one of us to present an opinion, too, regarding the origin of conjugal love and its vigor or potency."

All the tables then signaled with their hands permission for him to do so. Then one of them entered and stood beside the table on which the miter had been placed. He said:

"You Christians trace the origin of conjugal love from the love itself. We Africans, on the other hand, trace it from the God of heaven and earth.

"Is conjugal love not a chaste, pure and holy love? Are the angels of heaven not in an enjoyment of it? The whole human race, and therefore the entire angelic heaven - are they not the offspring of this love? Could anything so wonderful spring from any other source than God Himself, the Creator and Sustainer of the universe?

"You Christians trace the origin of conjugal vigor or potency from various rational and natural causes. We Africans, however, trace it from a person's state of conjunction with the God of the universe. (We call this state a state of religion, but you call it a state of the church.) We trace it from this origin, for when love comes from this source and is constant and lasting, it cannot help but maintain its vigor, a vigor that is like the love, thus also constant and lasting.

"Truly conjugal love is not known except to the few who are near to God. Neither, therefore, is the potency of this love known to others. Angels in heaven describe the potency accompanying this love as the delight of endless spring."

Conjugal Love - Passage 115

The angel said that everything which exists in the whole of heaven and everything which exists in the whole world is nothing but a form of the marriage between good and truth, since each and every thing was created out of and into a marriage of good and truth - both everything that lives and breathes and also whatever does not live and breathe.

"There is nothing," he said, "that was created solely into a form of truth, and nothing that was created solely into a form of good. Good alone or truth alone has no reality, but they take form and become real through a marriage of the two, the character of the resulting form being determined

by the character of the marriage.

"Divine good and Divine truth in the Lord the Creator are good and truth in their very essence. The being of His essence is Divine good, and the expression of His essence is Divine truth. In Him, moreover, good and truth exist in their very union, for in Him they are infinitely united. Since these two are united in Him, the Creator, therefore they are also united in each and every thing created by Him. By this the Creator is also conjoined with all things created by Him in an eternal covenant like that of a marriage."

[4] The angel said further that the Holy Scripture, which came directly from the Lord, is as a whole and in every part an expression of the marriage between good and truth. And because the church, which is formed through truth of doctrine, and religion, which is formed through goodness of life in accordance with truth of doctrine, are in the case of Christians based solely on the Holy Scripture, it can be seen that the church as a whole and in every part is an expression of the marriage between good and truth. (For an explanation of this, see *The Apocalypse Revealed*, nos. 373, 483.)

The same thing that the angel said above regarding the marriage of good and truth he also said of the marriage between charity and faith, since good has to do with charity and truth has to do with faith.

"In such a state," he said, "the husband's power of insemination would continually be in the spring of youth, and he would therefore remain in the effort and power to transmit his truth, and the wife, out of love, would be in a continual state to receive it.

"The wisdom that men have from the Lord knows no greater delight than to transmit its truths. And the love of wisdom that wives have in heaven knows no greater pleasure than to receive them as though in a womb, and thus to conceive them, carry them, and give them birth.

"That is what spiritual procreations are like among angels of heaven. And if you would believe it, natural procreations come also from the same origin."

116. THE MARRIAGE OF THE LORD AND THE CHURCH AND CORRESPONDENCE TO IT

This chapter also takes up the marriage of the Lord and the church and correspondence to it, because without a knowledge and understanding of the subject, scarcely anyone can see that conjugal love in its origin is sacred, spiritual and heavenly, and that it comes from the Lord. Some in the church indeed say that marriage has a relationship to the marriage of the Lord with the church, but they do not know what the nature of that

Church of the New Jerusalem

November 2003

relationship is.

In order to make this relationship perceptible to some sight of the understanding, therefore, we must discuss in detail that sacred marriage which exists with and in those people who form the Lord's church. They, too, and not others, possess truly conjugal love.

To explain this secret, however, we must divide our treatment into sections under the following headings:

- (1) In the Word, the Lord is called a Bridegroom and Husband, and the church a bride and wife; and the conjunction of the Lord with the church and the reciprocal conjunction of the church with the Lord is called a marriage.
- (2) The Lord is also called Father, and the church, mother.
- (3) The offspring from the Lord as Husband and Father and from the church as wife and mother are all spiritual offspring, and this is what is meant in the spiritual sense of the Word by sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, sons-in-law and daughters-in-law, and by other terms which have to do with descending generations.
- (4) The spiritual offspring that are born from the marriage of the Lord with the church are truths, from which come understanding, perception and all thought; and also qualities of goodness, from which come love, charity and all affection.
- (5) From the marriage of good and truth that emanates and flows in from the Lord, a person acquires truth, to which the Lord joins good, and in this way the church is formed in the person by the Lord.
- (6) A husband does not represent the Lord and his wife the church, because both husbands and wives together form the church.
- (7) Therefore neither in the marriages of angels in heaven nor in the marriages of people on earth does the husband correspond to the Lord and the wife to the church.
- (8) Rather, the correspondence rests with conjugal love, insemination, procreation, love for little children, and other things of a similar sort that occur in marriage and result from it.
- (9) The Word is the means of conjunction, because it is from the Lord and thus is the Lord.
- (10) The church comes from the Lord and it exists in people who go to Him and live according to His commandments.
- (11) Conjugal love depends on the state of the church in a person, because it depends on the state of his wisdom.
- (12) So, then, because the church comes from the Lord, conjugal love comes from Him as well.

117. (1) In the Word, the Lord is called a Bridegroom and Husband, and the church a bride and wife; and the conjunction of the Lord with the church and the reciprocal conjunction of the church with the Lord is called a marriage. It can be seen from the following passages that the Lord is called a Bridegroom and Husband in the Word, and the church a bride and wife:

He who has the bride is the Bridegroom; but the friend of the Bridegroom (is the one) who stands and hears Him, (who) rejoices greatly because of the Bridegroom's voice. (John 3:29)
(John the Baptist said this in reference to the Lord.)

...Jesus said..., "...As long as the Bridegroom is with them, the wedding guests cannot fast.... The days will come when the Bridegroom will be taken away from them; ...then they will fast." (Matthew 9:15, Mark 2:19,20, Luke 5:34,35)

...I...saw the holy city, New Jerusalem..., prepared as a bride adorned for her Husband. (Revelation 21:2)

(That the Lord's New Church is meant by the New Jerusalem, see The Apocalypse Revealed, nos. 880, 881.)

(An angel said to John,) "Come, and I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife." (And he showed him) the city, the holy Jerusalem.... (Revelation 21:9,10)

(The time for) the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.... Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb. (Revelation 19:7,9)

The bridegroom that the five ready virgins went out to meet, with whom they went in to the wedding (Matthew 25:1-10), means the Lord, as is plain from the thirteenth verse, where He says:

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man will come. (Matthew 25:13)

NEWS

New Granny We rejoice with Bernice Brown as she discovers the joy of Grandmotherhood. We wish Talia a wonderful life.

Storge= (love of Infants) increases over the generataions.....!!

CL 402. XIII. THAT THE LOVE OF INFANTS DESCENDS AND DOES NOT ASCEND, that is, that it descends from generation to generation, or from sons and daughters to grandsons and granddaughters. That it does not ascend from these to fathers and mothers of families is known. The cause of its increase in the descent is the love of fructifying, that is, of producing uses, and, as regards the human race, the love of multiplying the race. This cause, however, derives its origin solely from the Lord; for in the multiplication of the human race, He sees the preservation of creation and, as the ultimate end thereof, an angelic heaven, this being solely from the human race. And because, with the Lord, an angelic heaven is the end of ends and hence the love of loves, therefore, implanted in the souls of men is not only the love of procreating but also the love of the things procreated in their successions. Therefore also, the latter love exists only with man and not with any beast or bird. Moreover, that with man this love increases as it descends, comes from the glory of honor. This likewise increases with him according to the amplification [in the number of his descendants]. That the love of honor and glory receives into itself the love of infants flowing in from the Lord, and makes this its own, as it were, will be seen in article XVI, following.

Cynthia MacPherson is on the mendshe has sent a beautiful card of thanks....."love to everyone and God Bless" with the following words....
"There's a rear and special quality in the way some people live.....

However busy t hey may be, they still have time to give.

Anything you ask or need, they'll do their very best,

No matter what the task is.....or how simple the request.

Kindness just comes naturally to this rare and selfless few,

Special giving people.....people just like you!"

There is a tremendous improvement in my wellbeing- just waiting on the bones to join forces with the nerves and all will be fine!!

Church of the New Jerusalem

November 2003

Thank you Everyone...from Verity and Tony Thank you for the lovely blue towels and the mandarin tree!! It has been planted in the front garden. Whenever we eat mandarins from it we will remember all of you!

Engagement Party Come one and all to celebrate with Tony and Verity at the Manning Hall on Bradshaw Cres S Perth. At 7pm. Be prepared to play games, to eat, to drink and to dance! See you there!!

Lisa Smuts is leaving us again for an extended holiday in South Africa. She will be spending Christmas with the Hartin family at beautiful Knysna on the Eastern Cape Coast. She leaves on the 17th November. She returns to study Sustainable Development, Psychology and Drama at Murdoch University.

Garage Sale

Thanks to Moira and John for organising and doing most of the physical setting up and pricing of the many articles donated so generously by everyone to the cause! Over \$200 was made and a lovely sociable bonhomie atmosphere of tea drinking and muffin eating was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to Jason Smuts who is now working at Immersive Technologies. Software design of "simulator Dump Trucks " will be a challenging field!

Well done to Verity Smuts who has just completed Level I and II of Bowtech.

Peter and Lisa Buss visit Perth in March 2004 and November 2004

John and Moira will once more be leaving us for an extended visit to their family and friends in South Africa. Have a wonderful time! We will miss you sorely.

Change of time for church service in December and January.....Worship will be at 10.00am.

Please contact Margaret Talbot, or Richard Hart about your preference of time for the weekly Worship to be held in the New year. There is some consideration that the morning may suit more people...especially those with children.

Church of the New Jerusalem

November 2003

Jokes and laughs

Reading English : from an email

Tihs is vrey iternesntig! Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at an Elingsh
uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the
olny iprmoatnt tihng is taht frist and lsat ltteer is at the rghit pclae.
The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm.
Tihs is bcuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by itslef but the wrod as a
wlohe.
Got it?

.....

He who angers you controls you!

.....

Don't wait for six strong men to carry you into church.

.....

Having truth decay?..... Brush up on your Bible!

.....

The Perth Circle has chosen to support this mission in Nepal. Any
Donations you care to give, please give to Val Hart before the ef
November.

Thank you for
contributing
to this worthy
cause.

