13/08/21

AMCL FRIDAY Lecture 5

# modern identity in crisis

‘I believe that with the loss of God, humans lost a kind of absolute and universal system of coordinates, to which they could always relate everything, chiefly themselves. Their world and their personality gradually began to break up into separate, incoherent fragments corresponding to different, relative, coordinates…’[[1]](#footnote-1)

## The Choosing Self

### A syndrome is a set of medical signs and symptoms which are correlated with each other and often associated with a particular disease or disorder.

### Romantic, Capitalist & Suspicious – Germanic

## The Reality of God & the Reality of the World through Christ Jesus

In Christ, the offers meets us, to receive a share in the reality of God and the reality of the world, together, not one without the other. The reality of God opens itself in the same way that it puts me completely in the reality of the world. However, I find the reality of the world always, already borne, adopted, and reconciled in the reality of God.[[2]](#footnote-2)

### The Father has created the world to glorify Himself through the exaltation of His Son

### The Choosing Self is envious of the choice of God for Jesus as Christ

### The Father exhaust envy at the cross

### The Spirit vindicates the Father’s choice of Jesus at Pentecost

## Confronting the Choosing Self with the Choice of Jesus

### The Spirit Constituted body of Christ

### Gaining a share in Christ by the Spirit

# Freud, Nietzsche & the Heart Turned In

‘The human being is itself from its own self-imposed limits’[[3]](#footnote-3)

## Nietzsche’s Ressentiment

### The noble or master morality seeks out its opposite ‘so that it can say yes to itself even more thankfully and exultantly.’[[4]](#footnote-4)

## Freud’s Erotic Experience

### “The behavior of a human being in sexual matters is often a prototype for the whole of his other modes of reaction in life.”[[5]](#footnote-5)

### Socialization is sexualization.

### Bernays and the commodification of desire.

# The Power of the Spirit in the inner-self

‘I pray that He may grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power in the inner [self] through His Spirit,’ (Eph.316)

## The Beloved Son, God’s fullness in bodily from

### ‘So the Word of God … came in order that he who is the image…might be able to renew … humanity which is in the image.’ (De Inc. §13)

### The Image bearer between the ideal and the actual

### The wisdom and power of God.

## The Mindset of the Spirit

### ‘...‘the secret energy of the Spirit by which we come to enjoy Christ and all his benefits’[[6]](#footnote-6)

### Adoption in the Spirit

### ‘not my will but yours be done.’

### Co-heirs and co-sufferers

### Longing for perfection,

## ‘Your Body is a temple of the Holy Spirit’

### ‘we are what we do in the body and what our bodies are eschatologically’[[7]](#footnote-7)

### ‘We are not our own: we were bought with a price. Therefore, we honour God with our bodies.’ (1Cor.6:17, 19-20)

### ‘offering the body as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God’

## The Spirit and the Perfect Image

### Wesley’s sinless perfectionism

### ‘That is to say, the end of this world-time of sin and death is foreseeable by the people who believe, and who struggle against the power of this world with ‘the power of the world to come,’ and who thus enter into Christ’s struggle.’[[8]](#footnote-8)

# God’s Dwelling in the Spirit and the gifted self

## ‘You are…God’s dwelling in the Spirit’

### Temples forming a Temple by the Spirit

### Body Politick

### Imperfect Bodies

## The Self as a Gift

### The Self as an eschatological promise

### Putting off the old self

### Putting on the New

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1. Václav Havel, *Open Letters : Selected Prose, 1965-1990*, ed. Paul Wilson (London: Faber, 1991). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Ethics*, trans. Reinhard et. al. Krauss, vol. 6, *Dbwe* (Minneapolis: Fortress PRess, 2005), 35. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Act and Being*, trans. Martin Rumscheidt, Eng ed., vol. 2, *Dbwe* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996), 29-30. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Friedrich Nietzsche, *On the Genealogy of Morality*, ed. Keith Ansell-Pearson, trans. Carol Diethe (Cambridge: CUP, 1994). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Sigmund Freud, Sexuality And The Psychology Of Love (Don Mills, Ontario, Canada, 1933). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, trans. F.L. Battles, vol. 20 & 21, *Library of Christian Classics* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1969), III.1.i. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Colin Gunton, ‘ “Until He Comes”: Towards an Eschatology of Church Membership’, International Journal of Systematic Theology 3.2 (2001), p. 192. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Jürgen Moltmann, *The Coming of God : Christian Eschatology* (London: SCM Press, 1996), 194. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)