## #10 FORUM POST ON THE ONENESS OF GOD

Dear C,	
You asked:	
FaithWillDo, If God moved David against Israel, the	en why is Satan necessary?

God does not directly tempt mankind and that is why He used Satan to tempt David:

James 1:3 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

God uses Satan and evil spirits for that work.

You asked:

You also said that if someone does you wrong, then it's easy to forgive them. Why would you need to forgive them if it was God who caused them to do it? It might be better to take up the matter with God.

When we sin, we do so willingly. Because we do, Christ holds us accountable for that sin to teach us about His righteousness (knowing good from evil), but He holds Himself responsible for our sin. For that reason and others, God sent Christ to suffer and die on the cross. By sending Christ, God took the full responsibility in correcting our marred spiritual condition with which He created us. Once Christ completes His work of conversion within each person, no one will ever sin again.

As for me forgiving those who sin against me, I do so because of God's loving and forgiving nature which dwells within me. And strictly from a logical point of view, what right would I have to ask God or others to forgive me of my sins, if I am not willing to forgive others of their sins? I know that in the future God is going to correct everyone's sin nature and that they are going to be my brothers in Christ. Knowing this truth, it is easy to forgive them because of the love God has placed in my heart for them. It is the same love Christ has for us, while we, too, are sinners.

As for "taking the matter up with God", Paul evidently received similar comments as yours when He was teaching this truth about God's "will" ruling supreme over mankind's "will". Here is how Paul replied:

Rom 9:19 Thou wilt say then unto me, Why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will? Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?

You said:

If God is doing all the willing, then there would be no "their own decisions." In fact, there wouldn't even be a you, or I, a he, him, she, etc.etc.

This answer is complicated so please bear with me.

Christ and mankind are living "souls" and because we are, we have <u>separate consciousnesses</u>. However, we are controlled by the spirit we each have within us. It is the spirit within us that causes us to "will". Christ's Spirit which dwells in Him is the full measure of the Father's Holy Spirit. Mankind's spirit we have from birth is a MARRED spirit (**Jer 18:4**).

At present, mankind's "will" is contrary to God's "will" because we have a marred spirit. As a result, God must intervene and rule over man's "will" so that we do and say what He wants. But this will not always be the case. Someday, God will have our "will" so perfectly matched to His "will" that there will be no differences and no need for God to intervene.

John 10:30 I and my Father are one.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.

John 10:38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, <u>believe the works</u>: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.

John 14:12 Verily, Verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

God accomplishes our "oneness" with Him by giving us the full measure of the Holy Spirit, just like He did with Christ. Once mankind is fully converted, we will "make decisions" but because we have the full measure of God's Holy Spirit, those decisions will be perfectly matched to God's decisions.

Anyway, that is how I understand it from the limited amount of truth that has been revealed to us from scripture. I am sure there is still much more that Christ doesn't reveal to us because we simply are not able to understand it at this time.

Joe