

Rev. Paul A. Hottinger

Unity with the Trinity Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time Tuesday, July 23, 2019 Ex
14:21—15:1; **Mt 12:46-50** (St. Bridget, religious) (Christian morality is about living
out in the world what this life of God is all about.)

“For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

This is a very important reading because it’s opening up **the very goal of Jesus: introducing people to God; enveloping people**, the image of God in matter, in flesh, **in the life of the Trinity in whose image they have been created.**

So many people distract themselves when reading the gospel. For example they ask irrelevant questions: Who are Jesus’ brothers? Well frankly, who cares? That’s not the point. It’s somebody, some relatives were there. But the point is this: Jesus is not interested in them; **he is not interested in his relatives according to the flesh. He is interested in developing a whole new relationship**, and notice brother, sister, mother—no father. Why? There’s only one Father; **there’s only one Father for all creation**, the Father Jesus came from, the Father who generated Jesus and who generates himself in every human soul that permits it, and thus bringing that human person into the unity of the divine Godhead: Father, Son, Holy Spirit, so that this is the life that God destines for us, his own, his very own life.

And this is the one, the one human vocation. Again, we distract ourselves with differences. We talk about well this or that, marriage or single life or celibacy or religious life or ordained priesthood and so on. Those are all distractions. The one vocation—**the one vocation—signified by Holy Baptism is the vocation of life in the divine Trinity. Christian morality is about living out in the world what this life of God is all about.** That is our vocation. It’s discovering within our own acts of knowledge and will, our own understanding and choice, what God is all about. What is wrong with traditional morality is it’s too focused on avoiding grave trespasses or

grave errors. Avoiding mistakes or errors is really pointless. **We are supposed to be pursuing the life of God itself.** That is what it means to be a moral Christian person: to pursue the life of God, to understand within oneself what God is all about, **to desire for oneself and for the entire universe, since we can't distinguish anymore, what God desires for the whole universe.**

Toward this end of course there is the cross, which means dying to one's own self-will. One cannot pursue this without **dying to one's own self.** But once one dies to oneself or as one gradually dies to oneself, **this new life takes over** with far greater power, vitality, beauty, richness, everything desirable. And this is what God wants, not only for us, for the world. We are the ones chosen; **our vocation is to be chosen to demonstrate to the world,** to mirror to the world, what this looks like, to attract the world to God by knowing and willing and showing and being **that mirror.**