

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL  
BIBLE SCHOOL SECOND EDITION  
SESSION 19 - CULTS PART 8  
Unity School of Christianity

---

**Founders:** Charles and Myrtle (d. 1931) Fillmore

**Headquarters:** Lee's Summit, Missouri

**Membership:** Over one million

Founded by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore, Unity began in Kansas City in 1889. Both Charles (a spiritist with no Christian background) and Myrtle (raised a Methodist) were involved with Christian Science and claimed that principles in Christian Science led to healings in their lives. However, they disagreed with the Christian Science doctrine that matter is not real. They broke away, taught the reality of matter (Christian Science denies the reality of matter), and added, among other doctrines, the belief in reincarnation. Charles even believed he was the reincarnation of Paul the apostle. The Fillmore's studied Hinduism and wove many of its other principles into their philosophy as their new religion grew. Unity is a mind science cult.

Unity School of Christianity mainly propagated itself through literature distribution. The followers are encouraged to remain in and practice their respective religions. They consider their mission a way of subtly disseminating their ideas. The main purpose of Unity School of Christianity is to enable people to become the heir to their true divine nature. "We see the good in all religions and we want everyone to feel free to find the Truth for himself wherever may be led to find it" (*Modern Thought*, 1889, p. 42).

### **Unity School of Christianity - The Basic Theology**

The salvation beliefs of Unity School of Christianity are described in the Unity publication, *Salvation*. It says, "As a matter of fact, salvation is one of the finest words in our language, for it means simply that by the virtue of God's presence within our own being we have the power to overcome wrong thinking and thereby to deliver ourselves from the unhappy results of such thinking." It goes on to say, "To be saved to be born anew, is to come into Truth with the whole person and build a new way of life."

---

SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL  
BIBLE SCHOOL SECOND EDITION  
SESSION 19 CULTS PART 8  
UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY  
SOME INFORMATION HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM  
[www.carm.org](http://www.carm.org) and [www.allaboutcults.org](http://www.allaboutcults.org)

This is the way of salvation that Jesus taught." According to Unity School of Christianity, there is no sin to be forgiven. All a person needs to do is believe in their true divine nature and their belief alone will make it true. Unity denies the existence of a heaven or hell.

Unity teaches that as man discovers his divine nature, he raises his inner being until he is fully God-realized. Once he has reached this state, he is in perfect oneness with God and does not need further redemption. He is now divine.

Who is Jesus? According to Unity School of Christianity, Jesus was only a man who attained a higher mental state. J. Sig Paulson, an author in *Unity* magazine, writes, "Each individual has within himself the Christ potential, the Christ presence, the Christ reality." Unity teaches that it is the potential of every man and woman to become a "Christ."

Who is God? Fillmore writes, "We must relieve our minds of a personal God ruling over us.... God is not person but Principle" (*Dynamics for Living*, p. 30).

### **Unity School of Christianity - Reincarnation**

Unity School of Christianity also believes and teaches reincarnation. Charles Fillmore said that reincarnation was a simple way for God to offer man a second chance at perfection. Article 22 of the *Unity Statement of Faith* states, "we believe that the dissolution of spirit, soul and body, caused by death, is annulled by rebirth of the same spirit and soul in another body here on earth. We believe the repeated incarnations of man to be a merciful provision of our loving Father to the end that all may have the opportunity to attain immortality through regeneration, as did Jesus." Unity believes that when a body dies, the soul passes into the bodies of lower animals or other human beings, in a rotating cycle. This continues until purification is accomplished. Then the soul passes to Nirvana (Buddhism) or Brahma (Hinduism).

### **Unity School of Christianity - The Basic Christian Response**

The teachings of Unity School of Christianity are in direct contradiction with the Bible. The Bible distinctly says, "**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**" (**Romans 3:23**). All people are in need of a Savior.

The Bible also contradicts Unity's standard for salvation. Jesus said in John 14:6, "***I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father, except through me.***" It is through Jesus Christ alone that people receive salvation, not through their own effort (Ephesians 2:8-9).

The Bible presents Jesus as the sinless, Son of God-fully God and fully man ([John 5:18](#), [Philippians 2:6-7](#)). In the Bible, God is presented as more than Principle-he is a personable Creator.

Regarding [reincarnation](#), the Bible tells us that we die once and then face judgment ([Hebrews 9:27](#)). The Bible never mentions people having a second chance at life or coming back as different people or animals. Reincarnation has been a popular belief for thousands of years, but it has never been accepted by those who believe in the Bible.

A list of contradictions could go on and on. It is clear that Unity School of Christianity is not based on the Bible.

**Doctrines:** Unity School of Christianity denies the [Trinity](#), the deity of [Jesus](#), the personality of the [Holy Spirit](#), the necessity of the atonement of Jesus for our sins, heaven, hell, sin, and the existence of the devil.

Unity teaches reincarnation. "The second birth is that in which we 'put on Christ.' It is a process of mental adjustment and body transmutation that takes place right here on earth." They are largely vegetarians. It teaches that experience, if you are 'in tune' with God, is more accurate and reliable than the [Bible](#). God, though, is a divine universal consciousness. Man is a part of that Divine Consciousness and is, therefore, divine by nature.

Unity separates Jesus from Christ saying that Jesus was a man, but that we all possess the Christ consciousness within us. Christ is the one complete idea of perfect man and divine Mind. Atonement is the reconciliation of our minds with the Divine Mind. It says that the Holy Spirit is a latent power within every one of us.

"Problems" disappear when you think correctly; that is, when you think according to the principles of divine mind as revealed in Unity. God is within us all as well as creation. "God slumbers in the rocks. God stirs in the flowers. God awakens in Man."

All are children of God and Jesus was simply here to show us what we, as children of God, can do. It denies that Jesus is God in flesh and that he is to be worshiped. "But because He remained in a high state of spiritual consciousness, He became the ethical Messiah of the world."

Following are quotes from Charles Fillmore's book Christian Healing, Unity School of Christianity, Unity Village, MO. They are at the end of each chapter in his book and are meant as summarizations and points of meditation.

1. "God is the name of my good" (p. 17).
2. "God is the name of the everywhere Principle, in whom I live, move, and have my being" (p. 17).
3. "I am the son of God, and the Spirit of the Most High dwells in me" (p. 29).
4. "I am the only begotten son, dwelling in the bosom of the Father" (p. 29).
5. "I am the Christ of God" (p. 29).
6. "I and my Father are one" (p. 29).
7. "I am one with Almightyness" (p. 29).
8. "God is good, and God is all, therefore I refuse to believe in the reality of evil in any of its forms" (p. 60).
9. "My perfection is now established in Divine Mind" (p. 83).
10. "Holding continuously to the reality of things spiritual establishes them in mind -- they become mental substance" (p. 84).
11. "I see the light of the Christ consciousness always" (p. 106).

Because unity denies basic Christian theology it is considered a non-Christian cult.

**Publications:** Wee Wisdom, for Children; Good Business, for business people; Weekly Unity, their devotional magazine. They use mail order extensively. There are many other writings some of which are "Mysteries of Genesis" and "Christian Healing" both by Charles Fillmore.

**Comments:** To uphold its doctrinal position, like most non-Christian cults, the true Christian position is misrepresented, in order to justify this cult's "more correct" view. For example, Unity claims that Christianity views God as a man because we claim that God made us in His image. This is an erring assumption on their part as well as a misrepresentation. Unity uses the Bible and Jesus when it suits its needs but is not faithful to the biblical revelation of who and what God is, what Jesus has done, and the nature of the Trinity and salvation. It is a dangerous non-Christian cult that should be avoided.

A list of contradictions could go on and on. It is clear that Unity School of Christianity is not based on the Bible.