

CouplesInBloom.com – IN or OF?

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Two of the most important words in the Bible are **IN** and **OF**. Biblical translations:

IN: being among, yet not originating from or destined to.

OF: immersed by, unified with, and functioning from; commonly known as *nexus*.

God says we need to be **IN** some things and **OF** some other things because He knows our nexus is our destiny. That is why these two words are vitally important to God and to us.

The Bible is literally *packed* with practical life application explanations that use these two words. Scriptures containing the words / phrases **IN**, **OF**, **not IN**, and **not OF** alone are enough to really revolutionize our heart, mind and life for God. For now, read the few Scriptures listed below to get the point God intends by using these two important words:

- Romans 8:8 ⇒ those **IN** the flesh are **not** able to please God.
- Romans 8:9 ⇒ we are **not IN** the flesh **if** the Spirit **OF** God lives **IN** us.
- John 15:19 ⇒ the world loves those **IN** the world and hates those **not IN** the world.
- Philippians 2:15 ⇒ we are to be blameless **IN** this perverted nation, **among** whom we shine as lights **IN** the world.
- Colossians 1:18 ⇒ God needs to become first **IN** everything we think and do.
- 1 John 5:1 ⇒ whoever believes that Jesus Christ is the Messiah is born **OF** God.
- 1 John 5:18 ⇒ whoever is born **OF** God keeps himself from attaching to wickedness.
- John 9:5 ⇒ while **IN** the world, Jesus Christ was the light **OF** the world.

The above list is *desired* by those born **OF** God, but is *burdensome legalism* to those only wanting to be **IN** God for what they can get **OUT** of God. Matthew 7:22 ⇒ “Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy **IN** Your name, and **IN** Your name cast out demons, and **IN** Your name do many works of power?” **Good question!**

Jesus’ answer: Matthew 7:23 ⇒ “I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of wickedness!” Many foolishly think that being **IN** God (e.g. church) is enough; however, God wants more than **IN**; He wants **Intimacy**: i.e. being **OF** each other, *knowing* to the extent of a lifestyle that is immersed by, unified with, and functioning from each other.

You may ask, “Why does the Bible say to be **IN** the Spirit? Why doesn’t it say to be **OF** the Spirit?” Remember God delivered us from sin and had us spiritually born (a.k.a. born again) **OF** God (immersed by, unified with, and functioning from Him). Therefore: we did not **originate** with righteousness so we were not **OF** the Spirit, **BUT** we are **now destined** in righteousness because we became born **OF** God. Thank God for this change!

Marriage application: Are you **IN** your spouse or **OF** your spouse? What does *that* mean? Asking the question this way may help you understand: Do you approach your spouse (to go **IN** them) **OR** do the two of you approach life as one (because you are **OF** one mind, body and Spirit)? Spouses are individuals, but our nexus reveals our intimacy.

Divorce divides spouses **IN** (merely among) each other, **not** those **OF** (immersed by, unified with, and functioning from) each other... just like (and patterned from) our own relationship with God as seen above in Matthew 7:22-23. **Do not settle for being IN love; instead, be OF love, thoroughly consumed with your Lover.** ♥ Loren and Kathy Falzone