**Unity In The Church**

 1 Corinthians 1:10-13

\*Unity: The quality or state of not being multiple: oneness. A condition of harmony . The state of being one or united into a whole .

\*When the church has unity, a lot of things are accomplished. When it is no unity all the time is wasted on fighting and arguments. We need more unity and less fighting.

1. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 (Problems in the church at Corinth)

A. Now I beseech you , brethren , by the name of our lord Jesus Christ , that ye all speak the same thing , and that there be no divisions among you ; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment . For it has been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. now this I say , that everyone of you saith, I am of Paul ; and I of Apollos ; and I of Cephas ; and I of Christ . Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized into in the name of Paul?

B. I beg you **brothers and sisters** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I beg that all of you agree with each other, so that there will be no divisions among you. I beg that you be completely joined together by having the same kind of thinking and the same purpose. My brothers and sisters, some people from Chloe’s family told me about you. I heard that there are arguments among you. This is what I mean: one of you says, I follow Apollos . Another person says, I follow Cephas (Peter) , and another person says , I follow Christ . Christ cannot be divided into different groups! Did Paul die on the cross for you? No! Were you baptized in the name of Paul? No!

2. Philippians 2:3

A. Let nothing be done through **strife or vainglory**; but in **lowliness of minds let each esteem other better than themselves.**

B. When you do things, **don’t let selfishness or pride be your guide**. **Be humble and give more honor to other people than to yourselves**.

3. Ephesians 4:2-3

A. **With all lowliness and meekness**, **with longsuffering**, **forbearing one another in love**; endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

B. **Always be humble and gentle** . **Be patient and accept each other with love**. You are joined together with peace through the spirit.

\*If you don’t want unity just do the opposite of these things. Don’t love, don’t be humble and gentle and be impatient with others.

4. Amos 3:3

A. Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

B. Two people will not walk together unless they agree!

\*Did we know that **unity is an agreement?**

5. 1 Corinthians 12:14

A. For the body is not one member, but many.

B. And a person’s body has more than one part. It has many parts.

\*Everybody that’s a member of the Lord’s church is important. One person can’t be the whole body . We are all in this together.

(Still talking about unity)

6. Ecclesiastes 4:12

A . And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; **and a threefold cord is not quickly broken**.

B. **An enemy might be able to defeat one person**, **but that enemy can’t defeat two people**. And three people are even stronger. They are like a rope that has three parts wrapped together – **it is very hard to break.**

\* When we have unity **in the church**, it is hard for somebody to pull us apart or destroy the church. Unity holds things together.

7. Psalm 133:1

A. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

B. Oh how good and pleasant it is when brothers can sit together truly united.

8. 2 Corinthians 13:11 Paul’s (Conclusion of his letter) His 3rd time coming to the Christians in corinth

A. Finally, brethren, farewell . Be perfect, be of good comfort, **be of one mind**, **live in peace**; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

B. Now, brothers and sisters, I say good – bye. **Try to be perfect** . Do the things I have asked you to do. **Agree in your minds with each other** , **and live in peace** . Then the God of love and peace will be with you.

9. Romans 16:16

A. Salute one another with a Holy Kiss. The Churches of Christ salute you.

B. When you see each other, say hello with a holy kiss. All of Christ’s churches (groups of believers) say hello to you.

\*Showing love toward one another, caring for one another, respecting one another and concerned for one another. (Unity) holds things together for a strong Christian family.

10. 1 John 4:20

A. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

B. If a person says, I love God, but that person hates his brother or sister in Christ, then that person is a liar. That person can see his brother, but he hates him. So that person cannot love God, because he has never seen God!

\*Hope today that we can understand a little better concerning unity. I takes more than one person to have unity . It takes the whole church to create this bond.

There are five things we must do to become a Christian

**Hear** the word {Romans 10:14) , **Believe**  what you have heard (Hebrews 11:6), **Repent (**Acts 17:30) , **Confess** (Acts 8:36-37) , and be **Baptized** (Acts 2:38)

Shall we stand while we sing the song of Invitation

 Mark Keith / Minister

 Alabaster Church of Christ

 Sermon

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