

Biblical Unity

Biblical Unity Must Be Desired



Unity in a congregation can often be sensed, “smelled”, or picked up on! People love to be in an atmosphere of unity and harmony, not only in the church, or in the workplace, but in the home as well. If a home, workplace or church has hostility or negative feelings, it cannot be hidden for very long. And one of the saddest things as it relates to the church is when disharmony is allowed to lead to division and separation. A church is most fortunate and blessed when it can say that it has never had a church fuss, split or division. Churches need desperately to live and operate in harmony with each other and do all they can to preserve and maintain unity in their midst.

- **Romans 15:6**
- **Ephesians 4:3**
- **Philippians 1:27**

Biblical Unity Cannot be Forced!

God can command Biblical Unity but it is of no value unless we respect the One who has commanded it! Pastors can plead with the congregation to be unified, but they cannot force it on them. Likewise, preachers can also preach and teach about unity, but it many not be accomplished. **Unity must be desired by the individual members!**

- **John 14:15**
- **Acts 5:29**
- **Luke 6:46**
- **1 John 5:3**

We must deeply understand that God commands unity, Jesus prayed earnestly for it, and we, as believers, are benefactors of it (John 17:22-23). If we recognize and respect Jesus’ Lordship over us, we will want what He wants, not what we want! The Lord only wants what is good for His creation; therefore, we need to look for and understand the great value of unity in the Body of Christ. The Psalmist expressed it so well:

“Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

Psalm 133:1

Because of unity, God’s people can accomplish great things for Kingdom building (Genesis 11:6). **Biblical unity is at the foundation of a great church of the Lord!**



Let's Search the Scripture Together

Biblical unity is made possible by God's love and actions. He has brought the redeemed into "one body".

Disunity is of Human Origin

Disunity is not a problem brought on by God - it is brought on despite all God's efforts by human frailties (Psalm 51:5). It is when we allow the perversities of human nature to affect the church and its unity, division occurs. Three of the perversities are mentioned in Paul's letter to the church at Philippi:

1. **Envy and Strife** (1:15, 4:2) - Some of the Christians were fighting one another, rather than Satan. They were envious of Paul and wanted to put him down and "outdo" him. Different levels of personalities or temperaments had become obvious.
2. **Selfish Ambition** (1:16-17, 2:3) - They were not sincere in their efforts of teaching Christ to others. They sought their own glory instead of the Glory of God (Rev. 12:7-9). We need to be Christlike in our thinking, working, and dealing with each other. By doing so, it will keep down bitterness, unjust criticism, mistrust, suspicion, ill will and negativism (1 Corinthians 13:4-7; Galatians 5:15).
3. **Ununified Leaders** (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13; 1 Timothy 5:19-20; Hebrews 13:7) - Church leaders must lead the way with a unity mindset. If the devil can split the leaders, then it will be easy to split the church! If the leaders and leadership team members are not really concerned about unity, why should the flock be concerned? Pastors need to take a stand for unity. Likewise, Ministers and Deacons need to take a stand for unity. Ministry Leaders and teachers in the church that stand before the congregation must also take the same stand.

Unity is a priority for this congregation and this Ministry!