

The Seven Unities That Will Unite the Church
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Session 1, part 1:

Introduction

1.) The Unity of The Spirit

be careful who you let pray for people; be careful who you got to for prayer; we have to tighten the Christian Training Center; must balance freedom once free from denominationalism;

Ephesians 4:1-16

What we call the Church is divided into sects and groups; there is no explanation for this;

Are we to go right up to the rapture in this divided state?

There are two types of unity:

- 1.) worldly church unity
- 2.) true church unity

Today, much effort toward unity; over 250 denominations in the United States alone; and there are more every day; just fellowship around Christ; doesn't make any difference what we believe; just fellowship around Christ; this allows principles of division to remain and grow stronger;

In Scripture, the Church is one body, one bride, one living temple. We are exhorted to study the word, but leave traditional truth alone. Don't rock the boat!

However, we must stand for truth.

Paul said, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

As children of God, we will be fighting as long as we live. While we maintain our divisions, we cannot be united.

God has put His hand on people to come out, but many are fearful. They might lose their pension.

The apostles did not die before laying a complete foundation. Church history is a mass of confusion because they left the word.

We must study the word. One of the main problems to unity is nationality and culture.

In the Church, there is no such a thing as nationality and culture.

Ephesians 2:14 ...He is our peace who has made both one (Jew and Gentile)

Ephesians 2:15 ...make one new man – doesn't stop at Jew and Gentile. We must let go of our traditions and our culture, and our nationality when we come into the Church.

We are children of the Living God, within the family of God. We must learn the Christian culture.

Galatians 3:28 ...neither Jew nor Greek, slave or free, male or female...all one in Christ.

Dr. Grimes came from Tyne, England, and was an Englishman. There are English clubs in the United States. No one else is allowed.

There is no segregation, color, creed in the Church. All are one in Christ.

No Scotch, English, Mexican, or American classes of Christians. The Holy Spirit can dissolve all our problems of nationality and divisions. We are all guilty in this area. We are witnesses to the Lord. We are martyrs for Him. Nationality is part of the system of this world. Christian culture is far better.

Ephesians 4:1-16

- 1.) Ephesians 4:1-3 The Unity of the Spirit
- 2.) Ephesians 4:4-6 The Seven Unities of Foundational Truth
- 3.) Ephesians 4:11 The Unity of Ministry
- 4.) Ephesians 4:12 The Unity of Purpose for the Ministries
- 5.) Ephesians 4:13 The Unity of Faith
- 6.) Ephesians 4:14-15 The Unity of Doctrine
- 7.) Ephesians 4:16 The Unity of Operation of the Ministry

There is something wrong with the Church. Divisions are not right.

1.) The Unity of the Spirit

The Holy Spirit moves in our lives and produces the unity of the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit produces one purpose. There are no divisions in this unity. It is unthinkable that the Holy Spirit would do one division here, another there, and another there, and so on. The Holy Spirit is not the author of division.

Some say, "Why bother?"

But we must fight the good fight.

Thousands murdered by inquisition, but, "Who cares?"

Luther stood for truth. The boat needed to be rocked. We must walk as described to produce the unity of the Spirit, without human interference.

Ephesians 4:1 walk worthy of the vocation to which you are called.

Walk means to conduct one's self, order one's behavior.

Worthy means our life should match our profession of faith.

We are brainwashed in lies. We are advertised to death with pure lies. We bend the truth if necessary. We've lost our principles of truth.

Session 1, Part 2:

1.) The Unity of the Spirit, continued.

Calling speaks of the divine summons God gives the sinner by which God by His sovereign grace saves us.

“With all lowliness” speaks of a true estimation of ourselves. This is the first principle of unity, that is, to realize who I am correctly.

These are stepping stones to unity. We need a revelation of lowliness, an intelligent understanding of who we are.

“Meekness” is an attitude we have such that no matter what happens, we accept his dealings with us, and rest in his grace.

“Longsuffering” is patience with respect to persons. Don’t allow yourself to blaze up in anger when injured by another. Be angry and sin not, Ephesians 4:26.

1 Timothy 1:16 ...all long suffering...

Don’t lose courage under trial. Dismiss it. Continuing in the truth brings trials.

Paul said, “I fought a good fight.” Reprove the unfruitful works of darkness.

“Forbearing one another” speaks of being patient with each other as unkind gestures are done. Dealing with error and discipline must be done but with these principles.

These things produce the unity of the Spirit. We need to look at ourselves and line up with the word of God in relationship to the unity of the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:3 “endeavoring” speaks of a determined effort, make haste, do one’s best at, keep by guarding, to keep the unity of the Spirit. We cannot compromise truth. We must balance these principles. We will be challenged when we speak the truth.

Stern rebukes of Paul, in love, reflect a perfect balance.

“Bond of peace” comes about when we walk in the Spirit in lowliness, meekness, and longsuffering. These things bring the unity of the Spirit.

If we fail here, we will not be able to enter into the unity of the Spirit or the other unities.

We are disciplined when we try to discipline, and we are corrected when we correct, We need to be honest and sincere and let these things work in our lives. This will solve our problems in the true Church.

We are on the verge of truth that will liberate us like never before. We shouldn’t condemn ourselves. God is merciful. He sees our hearts. The word of God is sharper than any two edged sword. We must pray for conscience that will quickly rebuke us and bring us into lowliness, settled in the peace of God.

Session 2, Part 1:

2.) The Seven Unities of Foundational Truth

If we can keep the seven unities, we will find ourselves as one Church, united. When we have lowliness, meekness, and longsuffering, we will have the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

This principle defies all the divisions that we see. The Spirit does not form divisions. We can do nothing for Him without Him. This brings us immediately into unity.

The next area of unity is the Seven Unities of Foundational Truth. When we don't have the unit of the Spirit, we will not be able to enter this next phase of unity. God never produced the divisions which we see in the body of Christ.

Paul came to the end of his ministry and said he had:

- 1.) fought a good fight
- 2.) finished my course
- 3.) kept the faith

We must fight for unity.

The devil is fighting our unity in the Spirit. Every man has a right to believe what they want to.

Ephesians 4:4-6

- 1.) one body
- 2.) one Spirit
- 3.) one hope
- 4.) one Lord
- 5.) one Faith
- 6.) one Baptism
- 7.) one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all, and in all

Something is wrong. The Church is not one. The word says one Church. The word gives us the answer. We must teach these seven truths of unity. We are in the right time in human history to begin the move.

Man just seeks a unity around Jesus Christ, but maintains their divisions. There is only one body, one Church. No matter the divisions, it is still one Church.

Where do we begin? What do we do?

First, we must see the truth. The Church is one body. There is no unity in division. Unity comes when we believe there is only one Church.

Hollywood mentions "charisma". Charismatic has to do with the pneumatika, the gifts of the Spirit. Once there is operation of the gifts of the Spirit, there is charisma and charismatic believers. The word "charisma" is used to freely. There is only one church. We must look over the walls. We can keep divisions but we must see the Church as one body. If they are hungry, give them the message.

God will make His truth real in His children.

There is one Spirit, the Holy Spirit. There is such a strong counterfeit in the days in which we live, and it calls itself the Holy Spirit. This counterfeit is really educated. We need to exercise the discerning of spirits. Some cults are claiming to be saved. The uneducated saints of God accept them without doubt. The Holy Spirit is not brain washing us to believe divisional things. There is one Spirit who is producing one purpose throughout the Church. The Holy Spirit did not produce 250 denominations. The Holy Spirit has only one purpose and He is producing a unity of purpose in the Church.

The Holy Spirit is not responsible for man-made divisions or doctrines. The more believers come under the control of the Holy Spirit, the more unity we will have in the Church.

Remember Martin Luther. What if he had said, "Why bother? It's too much trouble. The Pope will be after me. Why rock the boat?"

Now is the time to move in the area of unity.

The Lord is desperately wanting one Church. The Holy Spirit is making one Church. The Holy Spirit is working out one purpose in each member of the body of Christ. One hope of your calling. One!

We are going to the same place. No Baptists in heaven. We won't have any divisions. If we let Him work through us, He will reward us for what He does through us. It is God working in us to will and to do of His good pleasure. Man produces divisions, not God. There is a unity of destination. We will all stand before His throne stripped of all our humanistic principles. We could have this unity here if we would.

One Lord – supreme in authority, the Master, the one through whom our salvation comes, to whom we all belong. Is He producing these divisions? "Our Church is the one true Church," say some. "This is the Church of God, brother Grimes".

One Faith – principle by which all enter into salvation, and not a system of doctrine. This faith always takes us to faith in Jesus Christ. We therefore have no basis for divisions.

The truth is not that difficult.

One Baptism – now water baptism but one placing into, or submerging us into, the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:13 ...for by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body

This is not the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There are three sovereign baptisms. Three baptisms depend on our willingness. The baptism into the body of Christ is a sovereign baptism. The Holy Spirit submerges me into the body of Christ.

Acts 2:47 ...added to the Church

Acts 1:8 you shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you...Acts 2:4

Session 2, Part 2:

2.) The Seven Unities of Foundational Truth, continued

Speaking in tongues is the evidence of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. Knowledge hasn't passed away, and neither have tongues. Every place in Acts where they were baptized with the Holy Spirit they spoke in tongues.

One baptism in Ephesians 4:5 speaks of the baptism into the body of Christ when we accept Christ.

One God and Father of all – division is an insult to God. God is not in division.

Three distinct parts to God: Father Genesis 2:4 oneness in Son, Holy Spirit.

Marriage – 1 Corinthians 12:13 – one body but many members.

In our unregenerated state, we are not children of God. When we believe in Jesus, we become children of God. This fundamental principle of sons and daughters of God is itself alone the basis of our unity in Christ. If God is our Father, we are one.

Some say denominations are all regiments in God's army. "I wouldn't want to fight a war with them!" Grimes

We cannot dare to charge God with these humanistic divisions.

Above all – supreme rulership, over all, the whole entire universe, seen and unseen. He was before all things, and existed for all eternity. God created the whole universe to demonstrate His grace.

He allowed the fall. Good and evil are necessary to work out a plan and purpose that demonstrated grace. We are being watched by the angels, who see the grace and mercy of God. Divisions are messing up God's grace. Denominationalism is of the devil. We may need deliverance.

Why don't we get in tune with His purpose?

Through all – His indwelling in the Church – Ephesians 2:22 builded together for a habitation of God through the Spirit.

It's His temple, tabernacle, one body, one Church, only one purpose.

The Church will be completely united one day.

In you all – we have the one God in us. In a personal way, I have God.

The one God and Father of all who is above all, and through all, and in us all, is producing one purpose.

We die for traditions but we could live for the truth.

Revelation 21:3 I will be His God and he will be my son.

My word shall not return to me void, but will accomplish that for which I sent it.

Some say, "Corinthians is a backslidden Church and you can't use it for doctrine." Paul said, "I cease not to preach and teach the whole counsel of God."

Session 3, Part 1:

3.) The Unity of Ministry

4.) The Unity of Purpose for the Ministries

5.) The Unity of the Faith

One body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all.

In you all – relates to individuals – Ephesians 4:7,8, but unto every one is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. 8 ...gave gifts unto men (the ones He is indwelling)

Unity is consistent with the variety of gifts and ministries. Each member functions in a definite place in the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:1 ministries produce unity

Think about what our ministry is producing. We must be in harmony with the principles of unity. We must think it through. Don't cause trouble, but pray to God.

Need to get the truth first. Then we can pray and let God direct. Some are producing denominations. Pentecostals, Baptists, Presbyterians, Nazarenes...Some say, "It doesn't make any difference."

Ephesians 4:12 chief purpose – for the perfecting (to complete thoroughly, adjust, repair, join together)

Some can't do this because of their position but at least they must get the truth. It is not a revolution. Be reasonable, and sensible, and wise.

For the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ (one family)...Are we building a division? Bigness doesn't prove anything. We can advertise, control, and have bigness. We must be careful with our truth on time and order. This should be the goal of every ministry. We are one through and through.

'till we all come in the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God – one faith (salvation faith) brings us to the same basic destination. The "unity" of the faith doesn't relate to "one faith". Some teach that it does not relate to principles of belief. However it does. It relates to persuasion, conviction, profession.

What is it? It relates to what one believes, doctrine...and the knowledge of the Son of God. Faith and knowledge equal doctrine, a peculiar type of doctrine. If faith is related to knowledge, then it relates to principles of belief. Doctrinal knowledge is in complete harmony with the Son of God, all He was and is. It must produce what He produced in life, death, and resurrection.

Our doctrine must show forth Christ.

Some say they only teach Christ and Him crucified. What they mean is that they don't teach any decisive doctrine, but just the knowledge of salvation.

We can see where denominations stop in relation to the knowledge of the Son of God. We must stop at nothing but take in all the counsel of God. Some deny the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, casting out of devils, healing the sick, but Jesus told the apostles to teach their disciples all things He Himself had shown them. Unity is serious.

Some very gifted men are afraid to connect their faith with the knowledge of the Son of God. Are we afraid of the cost?

Jesus said there will be one fold, and one shepherd, and that He will build His Church. It is not just doctrinal knowledge alone that unites. We have a unity that still maintains divisions. Our doctrine must be in harmony with all that Christ is in life, death, and resurrection. With this principle in mind we can see easily the true body. What does our doctrine produce? This tells us if we are on track. Our doctrine must produce Christlikeness. This will unite the Church. Men and devils divide, but not God. When God gets a unity of prayer, He will move.

Unto a perfect man, or spiritual or mature man – this comes when we enter into the completeness of the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God. Our doctrine makes us perfect, complete, mature.

Paul prayed for the Ephesians to receive a revelation of the knowledge of Him. My branches will become strong, and my leaves green. I have the right soil. Not talking about absolute perfection but maturity. Further light brings further understanding.

Session 3, Part 2:

5.) The Unity of the Faith, continued

6.) The Unity of Doctrine

7.) The Unity of Operation of the Ministry

Ephesians 4:13 unto the measure of the fullness of Christ – one leads to another. We will be more and more like Him. The full capacity of what He is in the body.

Dr. Price had a fantastic healing ministry. He went into Azusa Street mission dressed in his frock. He knew it was for him. But it was not a good place for him where everyone could see him. He snuck behind the piano. All of a sudden they heard him rejoicing and wallowing in the dust and speaking in tongues. He then entered the healing ministry late in life. God gave him a vision of what the Church would be like when the Church had grown up. Everyone was healed.

6.) the perfection of unity Ephesians 4:14 that we henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine.

Years ago, the “close brethren” (boy they were close!) , sat in a circle, and the rest in the pews. Every morning they partook of the Lord’s Supper. A year went by and he (Grimes) got into a Pentecostal group and he spoke in tongues. He was then kicked out of the other group. He was ordained and then ordained again.

By the sleight of men, in cunning craftiness, by which they lie in wait to deceive – it is doctrine that tosses believers to and fro like every wind. Therefore, it must be doctrine that unites and matures them. We don’t have to start a fight about doctrine, but we must have a doctrine that embraces Christ in His fullness. It is men’s and devils’ doctrines that toss us to and fro. We must get in the word, study the word, and know the word.

What is doctrine? It is a formation of Scriptures that instruct on a theme of the Scriptures. 2 Timothy 3:16 everything we need to mature is in the word of God. Doctrine is something that we should discuss and understand.

1 Timothy 6:1 God has doctrine

2 John 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

2 Timothy 3:10 Paul had doctrine (what a dogmatic man!)

John 7:17 He who does the will of God will know of the doctrine

1 Timothy 1:3 no other doctrine

1 Timothy 1:10 sound doctrine

1 Timothy 4:6 good doctrine

1 Timothy 6:3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness

1 Timothy 4:1 doctrine of devils

Colossians 2:22 Which all are to perish with the using;) after the commandments and doctrines of men?

Revelation 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

Revelation 2:15 doctrine of the Nicolaitanes

The Church is full of religious philosophers. When we don't teach the word, it is nothing but philosophy. The Scripture must be quoted word for word. It is not what I think about the word but what it says.

Intellectual philosophy only gives a little ego trip. The Bible is full of doctrine. It comes from God. It is powerful. It will accomplish what He sends it to do.

7.) true spiritual unity will produce growth and unity of operation in ministry.

Ephesians 4:15,16 speaking the truth in love

Things come in God's time. If we are not ready willingly, we will be made ready! There shall be one fold and one shepherd!

Lord, if I'm not willing, make me willing.

May grow up into Him in all things who is the Head, even Christ – this brings others into maturity. Now I am living in the fullness of Christ. We will see Him as the Head of the Church and lose sight of ourselves. What a day!

From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth – every division is going to be swept away. When we embrace Him as the Head, He is going to radiate the power of God (from whom the whole body...) all over the world.

A man in Bolivia lost a leg laying on the railroad track. He had drunk some kind of Kickaby juice (liquor) and in a drunken rage would kill people. He was tormented by devils. Dr. Grimes delivered him by the power of Jesus Christ.

Maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love – the seven unities complete the Church.

There are deliberate planned systems of error, but what they teach never produces what is spoken of in Ephesians 4:1-16. The whole Church is not on the earth. Some are alive and some are in heaven. The angels are going to see a demonstration of God's grace. The world will see the Church moving in oneness. God will show them His Church!