

UNITY

Intro:

The church of Jesus Christ is a body and must be a peace with itself in order to grow and prosper. All Christians must be working together and be one in mind and purpose. Ps 133

- I. Jesus prayed for unity.
 - A. In the Garden. Jn 17:13-23
 - B. That his disciples would be one as Jesus and God are united.
 - C. That all believers would be united.
 - D. That the world may believe.

- II. Unity can only be found in Truth.
 - A. Only in abiding in God's truth can we be truly united.
 - B. God's word is truth. Jn 17:17
 - C. Man made creeds only result in division.
 - D. Man made creeds are not God's truth.

- III. Christians should come to know God's truth.
 - A. Only then can we be united.
 - B. Knowledge comes from study. Acts 17:11
 - C. We must also accept God's truth as did the apostles. Jn 17:8

- IV. Unity leads others to Christ.
 - A. Jesus said unity would prove that God had sent him. Jn 17:21
 - B. Atheism is spread by a factioed Christianity.
 - C. Imagine the world if all "believers" were united.

- V. Disunity destroys the body of Christ and the Church.
 - A. Corinth was divided. I Cor 1:11
 - B. Corinth had all types of problems because of disunity.
 - C. Paul said we must all be united. I Cor 1:10
 - D. The church is a body made up of members working together. I Cor 12

- VI. God's system for Church government leads to unity. Eph 4:12-13

- VII. Unity and how it impacts church work.
 - A. note the following diagram.

Total Energy
- Energy spent on Disunity

= Diminished energy for Christ.

If we spend all our energy fighting ourselves we will have no energy left over to fight sin and to convert others. The body of Christ will suffer greatly. But if we work together we actually create more energy. Christ is glorified.

B. note the following diagram.

Energy used for Christ
+ Unity among the believers

= Geometric proportioned results for Christ.