

Series: 1 Corinthians

## **“An Apostolic Appeal for Unity”**

(Sunday Morning January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025)

### **Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17**

Question = What causes disunity in a church?

Answer = One thing s\_\_\_\_\_

*James 4:1 “What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?”*

Question = What causes disunity in a church?

Answer = Another thing is p\_\_\_\_\_

*Prov 13:10 “Only by pride cometh contention:...” (KJV)*

### **I. The P\_\_\_\_\_ That the Apostle Paul R\_\_\_\_\_**

1) He Stated This P\_\_\_\_\_

*Phil 4:2 “I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord;”*

The positive part of this exhortation was for them “...to be of the same mind,” and this has a d\_\_\_\_\_ element to it .

2) He Stated This N\_\_\_\_\_

*John 17:20-21 “20 I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; 21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me”*

*John 13:35 “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”*

Our love for one another, our unity, is precious, because it can work like a m\_\_\_\_\_ to draw people to our church and, more importantly, to Jesus Christ.

*Eph 4:2-3 “2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”*

### **II. The P\_\_\_\_\_ That the Apostle Paul R\_\_\_\_\_**

1) They Were Being C\_\_\_\_\_

a. Some Were in the P\_\_\_\_\_ Camp

*1 Cor 8:9 “But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.”*

b. Some Were in the A\_\_\_\_\_ Camp

*Acts 18:24 “(Apollos was)...an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, (who) came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures”. (Emphasis Added)*

c. Some Were in the C\_\_\_\_\_ Camp

*Gal 2:11-12 “11 But when Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned.*

*12 For prior to the coming of certain men from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he began to withdraw and hold himself aloof, fearing the party of the circumcision”*

d. Some Were in the J \_\_\_\_\_ Camp

*John 16:13 “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; ...”*

This is the height of selfish pride, and arrogance, and conceit; this is the one who says “I am of Jesus,” and I am the o \_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_ who is r \_\_\_\_\_.

*Eph 4:11-12 “11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ”*

2) They Were Being C \_\_\_\_\_

Sometimes, we give the Devil too much credit, because the Devil had n \_\_\_\_\_ to do with this.

*1 Cor 3:3-4 “3 for you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men? 4 For when one says, ‘I am of Paul,’ and another, ‘I am of Apollos,’ are you not mere men?”*

### III. The P \_\_\_\_\_ That the Apostle Paul R \_\_\_\_\_

1) The Gospel Should be E \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 15:3-4, “3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures”*

This is where unity in the church starts; it starts with harmony regarding the f \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith, especially, the gospel.

2) The Gospel Can be E \_\_\_\_\_

*1 Cor 1:23 “but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,...”*

*1 Cor 4:9-10 “9 ...we (Apostles) have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. 10 We are fools for Christ's sake, ...”*

Paul knew that his preaching the unadulterated gospel would cause him to be regarded as a fool by many; but listen to this, Paul d \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_\_.

*Rom 10:9 “that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved”*

a. I Want to Work to Preserve the Doctrinal Unity of Our Church, Because This is a Great Starting Point for Unity

- > **In Fact, I am Proud to be Able to Say That We are a People of the Book; This is a Bible Believing Church, and We Teach Bible Doctrine Here**
- > **If There is Any Place in Which Division is Appropriate, It is at This Point; and So, if You Don't Want a Bible Believing Church, You're in the Wrong Place**
- b. I Want to Preserve the Relational Unity in Our Church, Because This Helps Us to Share the Gospel More Effectively**
  - > **The Color of the Carpet Doesn't Matter This Much to Me, Whether We Have a Wooden Playground or a Metal Playground, or a Bus or Van or Whatever**
  - > **And if I Hear Anyone Say "*Well, Those Aren't Our Kind of People*", I'm Going to Tell Them "*You're Wrong, Because Jesus Died for Everyone*" (Social Club)**
- c. I Want to do My Best to Preach the Unadulterated Gospel Regardless of How Foolish It May Sound, Because I Want People to Get Saved**
  - \* You Must Admit That You are a Sinner in Order to Get Saved**
  - \* You Must Repent of Your Sins in Order to Get Saved**
  - \* You Must be Willing to Turn Your Back on a Sinful Lifestyle in Order to be Saved (Ex = Fornication, Adultery, Practicing Homosexual)**
  - \* You Must Acknowledge That You Can do Nothing to Save Yourself; You Cannot be Saved by Good Works (And This Includes Baptism)**
  - \* You Must be Willing to Acknowledge That Jesus is the Divine Son of God Who Bled and Died on the Cross in Order to Provide an Atonement for Your Sins and Mine and That He Rose Again on the Third Day**
  - \* And You Must be Willing to Allow Jesus to Become the Lord of Your Life**