

"THE BLESSED UNITY OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD"

PSALM 133:1-3

INTRO: One of the most ENJOYABLE THINGS to experience is the UNITY OF BELIEVERS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST! In fact, there is **nothing else like it, whether it is here in our own fellowship or when you travel to a foreign land and are in the midst of another culture with a different language.** **FELLOWSHIP AND UNITY AMONG CHRISTIANS IS SOMETHING THAT THE WORLD CANNOT EXPERIENCE TO ANY DEGREE. IT IS ALL AND ONLY POSSIBLE THROUGH THE WORK OF CHRIST FOR US ON THE CROSS AND THROUGH FAITH IN HIM THAT WE ARE RECONCILED TO HIM AND PLACED IN HIS BODY FOREVER!** On the other hand, THERE IS NOTHING WORSE THAN FOR BELIEVERS IN CHRIST to have division and disunity. In fact, that is EXACTLY WHAT SATAN WANTS and WORKS TOWARD every day. **WHEN THE BODY OF CHRIST IS DIVIDED THE WORK OF CHRIST ON EARTH IS HINDERED.** So when we are tempted to be DISUNIFIED with another Christian and do things that will bring DISCORD INTO THE CHURCH, let's pause for a bit and ask a personal question. **WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING? BEING INVOLVED IN DISUNITY OR CONTRIBUTING TO THE COMPLETION OF THE WORK OF CHRIST?** In this message we are going to consider THE BLESSED UNITY OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD from Psalm 133.

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NOTE: The occasion of the Davidic Psalm is unknown. But perhaps it was prompted by the Nation's coming together in unity at David's coronation recorded in 2 Samuel 5:1-3.

There are two great pictures in this Psalm showing the blessing of unity:

- 1) **Verse 2** where it talks about the precious oil running down over Aaron's head and beard. This refers to Aaron's anointing in Exodus 29 and pictures a rich spiritual blessing that brings great refreshment.
- 2) **Verse 3** where it speaks of the dew of Mount Hermon which rises to 9,200 feet in northern Palestine and provides the headwaters of the Jordan River, the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea. Once again it speaks of refreshment.

THE POINT: **UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE OF GOD IS REFRESHING!**

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER ABOUT UNITY AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE

I. WHAT IS SPIRITUAL UNITY?

A. **UNITY AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE IS THE POSITIONAL AND PERSONAL ONENESS WITH OTHERS OF COMMON BOND AND PURPOSE FOUND WITHIN THE BODY OF CHRIST BY THOSE WHO ARE GENUINELY BORN AGAIN**

B. Scriptures to Consider

1. Romans 12:5
2. 1 Corinthians 10:17

ILLUSTRATION:

II. WHY IS SPIRITUAL UNITY THE DESIRE OF GOD?

- A. Because it Reflects the Triune God - 1 John 5:7
- B. Because it Presents a Testimony to the World – Philippians 1:27
- C. Because it Dilutes Satan's Effectiveness – Ephesians 4:26,27
- D. Because it Results in the Work of the Lord being Accomplished
-Philippians 4:2,3
- E. Because it is a Command of the Lord - Philippians 4:2

ILLUSTRATION:

III. HOW IS SPIRITUAL UNITY ACCOMPLISHED?

A. Positional Unity

1. Christ Prayed for it - John 17:20,21
2. Christ Provided for it - Ephesians 2:13-18
3. The Holy Spirit Performed it - 1 Corinthians 12:13

B. Practical Unity

1. A Command to Obey
 1. 1 Corinthians 1:10
 2. Ephesians 4:3
2. A Discipline to Maintain
 1. By Obeying the Word of God – Deuteronomy 26:16
 2. By Walking in the Spirit – Galatians 5:22
 3. By Submitting to Each Other – Ephesians 5:21

4. By Tolerating Differences of Opinion – Philippians 2:1,2

5. By Maintaining a Spirit of Humility – Romans 12:3

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF SPIRITUAL UNITY?

CONSIDER ACTS 2:46,47

THEY WERE ALL IN ONE ACCORD

THE WORK OF THE LORD WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE CHURCH

- A. They were Together Continually – Vs. 46a
- B. They were Together in the Homes – Vs. 46b
- C. They were Together in Gladness – Vs. 46c
- D. They were Together in Heart – Vs. 46d
- E. They were Together in Praise – Vs. 47a
- F. They were Together in Favor – Vs. 47b

THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH DAILY SUCH AS SHOULD BE SAVED!

ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION/LESSON:

1) You are either a maintainer of Unity or a creator of Disunity?

2) You are either doing the work of the Devil in creating Disunity or you are doing the work of the Lord in maintaining Unity?