

¹¹And He Himself [Jesus] gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

¹²for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

⁷But to each ONE of us (individually grace was given to maintain the unity of the faith) according to the measure of Christ's gift.

¹Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

²Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

Therefore, brethren, **seek out from among you** seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

Bearing with ONE another in Love

- ONE Body
- ONE Spirit
- ONE Hope
- ONE Lord
- ONE Faith
- ONE Baptism
- ONE God and Father

¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint [cf. Col. 2:19] supplies, according to the effective working by which every part [cf. Jn. 13:8] does its share, [and this knitting together] causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in [an atmosphere of] love.

- Vs. 17-19 Do Not Walk as Gentiles
- Vs. 20-24 Put Off and Put On to Maintain Unity
- Vs. 25-32 The Don'ts and Do of Maintaining Unity

¹⁷This I say, therefore [with this equipping of vs. 12-16]

verses 17-19...
and testify [or witness] in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,

¹⁴But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

³But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing...

¹⁹who, being past feeling, [by a seared conscience] have given themselves over to lewdness, (lustful pleasures) to work (gain) all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But you have not so learned Christ, 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, [by the Spirit of Christ] as the truth is in Jesus:

²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts,

⁸But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth.

²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

²⁶For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

Vs. 25-32 The Don'ts and Do of Maintaining Unity

²⁵Therefore, putting away lying...

EPHESIANS 4:25

⁴⁴You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

¹⁶These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: ¹⁷A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, 19 A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.

¹⁶These are the things you shall do: Speak each man the truth to his neighbor; Give judgment in your gates for truth, justice, and peace; ¹⁷Let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; And do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate,' Says the LORD."

²⁵cont... for we are members of one another.

EPHESIANS 4:25-27

²⁶"Be angry, and do not sin"

EPHESIANS 4:25-27

²⁶"Be angry, and do not sin"

EPHESIANS 4:25-27

²⁷cont... with a time limit on your anger turned to wrath... do not let the sun go down on your wrath,

²⁷nor give place [opportunity] to the devil.

⁸Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands [doing] what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.

²⁹Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

³⁰And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed [Eph.1:13] for the day of [our completed] redemption.

³¹Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.

³¹Let all bitterness and indignation and wrath (passion, rage, bad temper) and resentment (anger, animosity) and quarreling (brawling, clamor, contention) and slander (evil-speaking, abusive or blasphemous language) be banished from you, with all malice (spite, ill will, or baseness of any kind)

- Bitterness Smoldering resentment, unwillingness to forgive, harsh feelings.
- Wrath Bursts of rage, violent passion, temper tantrums.
- Anger Grouchiness, animosity, hostility.
- Clamor Loud outcries of anger, bawling, angry bickering, shouting down of opponents.
- Evil speaking Insulting language, slander, abusive speech.
- Malice Wishing evil on others, spite, meanness.

³²And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another [with this standard of forgiveness], even as God in Christ forgave you.

- Kindness An unselfish concern for the welfare of others, and a desire to be helpful even at great personal sacrifice.
- Tenderheartedness A sympathetic, affectionate, and compassionate interest in others, and a willingness to bear their burden.
- Forgiveness A readiness to pardon offenses, to overlook personal wrongs against oneself, and to harbor no desire for retaliation.

²³Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants.

²⁴And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

²⁵But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made.

²⁶The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, 'Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.'

²⁷Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt.

²⁸"But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'

⁸But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.