

Why Division?

Sunday AM 12/08/19

Introduction:

Luke 12.49-53 Division is heart breaking, family members, brethren who used to worship together, other loved ones. Involves attitudes, actions, hurtful words spoken. God and Christ want His people to be united. Yet, Jesus spoke of the certainty of division in *verses 49-5*. Why? What would be the cause of division?

I) Christ Would Be the Source of Division

A) Division would occur in families as some would accept Jesus and others would not. *V. 52-53*

1. We see this today in families are divided religiously. Some will not accept Jesus and others will.

B) Division would occur among friends. *1 Peter 4.3-4*

1. Those of this world will wonder why you don't do the things you used to do.
2. They may try to test you and tempt you to do sinful things. Others may simply start to exclude you.
3. The Christian realizes their first priority is to follow Christ.

C) Division would occur among brethren in Christ, *1 Corinthians 5.1-2, 13*.

1. Some will get involved in sin and refuse to repent.
2. Bible speaks of those who go back into the world.

D) Division would occur among teachers of Christ, *1 Timothy 1.18-20*

1. We are to be unified in our teaching in our speech.
2. Some started teaching a different Gospel.

E) Division would occur among workers in the church, *2 Timothy 4.10*

1. Some active members of the church grow cold and drift away.
2. Others may become envious of others.

F) Division would not be just a one-time thing but occur time and again. *1 Corinthians 11.19*

1. History teaches us this is so. Early church had Judaizer teachers, agnostics.
2. Paul wanted the elders of Ephesus in *Acts 20*; seem change of doctrine and organization.
3. Restoration period – have no creed but the Bible, be Christians only and only Christians.
4. Eventually split over instrumental music and missionary society.
5. In the 1900's Premillennialism, orphan homes, colleges in the budget, etc.

II) Christ Is the Stumbling Block, *1 Corinthians 1.23*

A) Not the Messiah of our imagination

1. Jesus was not the Messiah the Jews were looking for.
2. The same thing today. How many times Jesus very words are quoted and then refuted by so called followers of Him?

B) He will judge on the final day, *Acts 17.30,31.*

III) Is There A Silver Lining To This Cloud?

A) New family, new friends, new teachers, new brethren, etc.

1. It is not a matter of replacement.
2. Can you really replace your family? Mom, Dad, friends, etc.

IV) Must Endure the Sacrifice for a Relationship with Jesus

A) We love because He first loved us, *1 John 4.10,19*

B) We give because He first gave Himself, *Romans 12.1.*

C) We hope because He first had hope in us, *Hebrews 2.10-13*

1. God sent Jesus to bring many souls to glory.

D) We believe because He first believed in us, *Ephesians 3.8-11.*

V) Here is the Answer to, Why Division?

A) Because Almighty God, Eternal Creator, and Holy Father has created us to glorify Himself and have an eternal relationship with Him in glory.

B) He loves you, sacrificed for you, a

1. Hopes and believes in you...

C) Division is hurtful, to be avoided if at all possible

1. But a relationship with a loving all powerful God is worth ANY division
2. What keeps you from that relationship?