

Unity In The Church

Ephesians 4:1-16

As we are now in 2026, we have a new year and with-it new challenges and opportunities. I want to think about the beginning stage of things on the church. The church is not a physical building, rather it is the people that make up the church (**I Peter 2:4-5;9-10**). Christ is the head of the church, and we are body of Christ (**Ephesians 1:22-23**). With this understanding let us as a local body of Christ continue to build, grow, and develop opportunities through exhorting one another daily and through edification as a whole body of Christ considering **Ephesians 4:1-16**.

We are encouraged to walk worthy. Paul was encouraging the church to walk in a worthy manner. He says to “*walk worthy of the calling which you were called.*” There is a manner as Christians in how we are to conduct ourselves. That we may in part grow and nurture the whole body of Christ. The way we are to walk in a worthy manner is found through humility (**James 4:6-10**). God is offering grace to the humble. We are to practice meekness (**Matthew 5:5**). The meek (those that are gentle and seeking revenge mentality) will be blessed. We must be patient (**Titus 2:24**). Enduring with love for one another (**Mark 12:30-31**). Through all these actions and characteristics unity can be more easily understood and allow the church to effectively grow together.

There is oneness with God. So many want to talk about peace and unity with God. But it is not based upon our own desires and ways. God has set in order oneness; God has set in order unity for us to seek His ways and know His ways. Unity will only happen seeking the oneness God has laid out. There is one body (Church). Christ came and built His church (**Matthew 16:18**). Christ is the head of this one church (**Ephesians 1:22**). He has all power and authority over heaven and earth and the church is also in that realm (**Matthew 28:18**). There is One Spirit, One Lord, and One God who were in the beginning (**Genesis 1:1, John 1:1-5, I Corinthians 2:10-11**) and only One offers salvation (**Acts 4:10-12**) Jesus Christ our Lord given by God the Father. There is one hope. We all have one hope of eternal life. There are not different degrees of heaven, but all can receive the same hope (**Philippians 3:12-16**) that is the goal for us all! To get to that one hope we understand through the one faith (**Hebrews 11:6**) without faith we cannot please God. Faith comes through hearing God through the Word (**Romans 10:17**). It is understanding the faith that we respond in obedience to God through baptism (**Mark 16:16**). This is how we can be saved (**I Peter 3:21**) and this is unity in the scriptures.

God offers unity through Christ. Each one of us has received the grace of God through Jesus Christ. It is by grace that we are saved through faith (**Ephesians 2:1-10**). Christ left the throne of Glory and came in the flesh to give His life. He died yet arose from the grave and ascended to the right hand of God. That we too might one day do in a similar way (**Romans 6:1-14**). That is being united with Christ!

The Church needs to work in the way God intended. Within the church we have individuals who are unique and special to God (**I Peter 2:9**). In the church different people serve in various capacities. Some people serve as elders, deacons, teachers, and evangelists. Others serve in other numerous ways (**I Corinthians 12:12-31**). Not everyone has the same abilities. However, we are to use what God has indeed blessed us with that we might serve God and others to fullest possibility we can. We are no longer to be tossed around with whatever doctrine is thrown our way.

Instead, we are to be grounded and rooted in God through Christ (**Ephesians 3:17**). We are to focus on truth and love and be a whole and complete body of Christ.

The body of Christ is special and unique. For it to function to its fullest extent it must be operating in a unified way. God has shown how the church should be. The question now is are we measuring up to the mark? **Daniel N Sanders**