

## LABORERS TOGETHER FOR THE SAME CAUSE

I Cor. 3:1-11

### 1. LABORERS TOGETHER.

1. *I have planted; Apollos watered; God gave the increase.*
2. *Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.*
  1. We are labourers together with God.
  2. I as a masterbuilder have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon.
  3. No other foundation can be laid except Christ.

### 2. GOD'S DESIRE FOR UNITY.

1. How and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.
2. Having the same mind.
  1. (2 Cor 13:11 KJV) Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.
  2. (Phil 2:2 KJV) Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

### 3. FACTIONS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

1. *Divisions through strife and vainglory.*
2. *We represent the Body of Christ in the earth.*
3. *Diversity in the Body. (Oneness doesn't mean sameness)*
  1. One body--many members.
    1. (1 Cor 12:12 KJV) For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.
    2. (1 Cor 12:14 KJV) For the body is not one member, but many.
    3. (1 Cor 12:27 KJV) Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. 1 cor 12:14 1 cor 12:27
  2. Should be no schisms.
    1. (1 Cor 12:25 KJV) That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.
    2. (1 Cor 12:13 KJV) For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.
4. *Difference of expressions.*
  1. (1 Cor 12:4 KJV) Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
  2. (1 Cor 12:5 KJV) And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
  3. (1 Cor 12:6 KJV) And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.
5. *As long as we are on the earth, there will be different expressions of the Body of Christ through various local churches.*
  1. There will be differences in personalities.
  2. There will be differences in ways we express ourselves through worship.
  3. Different emphases.

4. THE ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT.

1. ***Let⇒ have fellowship--be one.***
  1. The snake and the frog.
  2. Two cats with tails tied together and draped over clothesline--togetherness, but not in unity.
2. ***You can find a common denomiator between any two factions--but there has to be a limit how far you go.***

5. BASIS FOR UNITY.

1. ***How do you consider the Word of God?***
2. ***How do you view Jesus?***
  1. Is He just a good man?
  2. A prophet? A great teacher?
  3. Who do you say that He is?
  4. Thou art the Christ--the Son of the living God.

6. THE CENTRALITY OF CHRIST AND THE CROSS.

1. ***Focus on Jesus and the cross.*** (John 11:50 KJV) Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. (John 11:51 KJV) And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; (John 11:52 KJV) And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.
2. ***Began plotting to kill Jesus.*** (John 11:53 KJV) Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.
3. ***Had they known...***(1 Cor 2:8 KJV) Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
4. ***The effect of the cross.***
  1. (1 Cor 1:18 KJV) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.
  2. (1 Cor 1:21 KJV) For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. (1 Cor 1:22 KJV) For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: (1 Cor 1:23 KJV) But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;
  3. Some preach Christ of love--some of contentions--Christ is preached.
5. ***Determined to know nothing except Christ and Him crucified.***
6. ***Middle wall of partition.*** (Eph 2:13 KJV) But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. (Eph 2:14 KJV) For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; (Eph 2:15 KJV) Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; (Eph 2:16 KJV) And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: (Eph 2:17 KJV) And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. (Eph 2:18 KJV) For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Eph 2:19 KJV) Now therefore ye are no

more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; (Eph 2:20 KJV) And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; (Eph 2:21 KJV) In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: (Eph 2:22 KJV) In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

7. THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL.

1. ***The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to those who believe.***
2. (1 Cor 15:1 KJV) Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; (1 Cor 15:2 KJV) By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. (1 Cor 15:3 KJV) For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; (1 Cor 15:4 KJV) And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: