

# BE OF THE SAME MIND

## Introduction

- 1) **Romans 12:16** – “*Be of the same mind* toward one another...”
- 2) In fulfilling the will of God in our life and work, we must work together as children of God
- 3) This is very difficult if we go in different directions with separate agendas in God’s kingdom
  - a) *Warnings*: Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 1:10; 3:3; Gal. 5:15
- 4) The church is to be a functioning, unified body to the glory of God (Eph. 4:1-3, 15-16)
  - a) For the saving of our souls and other souls, we must be “of the same mind”
- 5) Look around – are we, His children, of the same mind toward one another and God?

## I) **Being of ONE MIND**

- A) It is essential for us to be of *one mind*
  - 1) We are to share one correct pattern of thinking (toward God, life, and one another)
  - 2) There must be one standard of thought – God’s way of thinking (in *all* things)
- B) This is necessary to accomplish certain things:
  - 1) **Worship together** (Rom. 15:5-6)
  - 2) **Work together** (Phil. 1:27; cf. Neh. 4:6)
  - 3) **Maintain unity** (Phil. 2:2)
  - 4) **Live in peace** (2 Cor. 13:11)
  - 5) **Show brotherly love** (1 Pet. 3:8-9)
- C) KEY: These can only be accomplished if these efforts are *reciprocal* (two-sided)
- D) If evil can unite in “one mind,” surely God’s people can be of one mind (Rev. 17:13, 17)!

## II) **Being of the SAME MIND**

- A) Having the “same mind” emphasizes that each of us must *determine* to think the same way
  - 1) Regardless of our background, family, traditions, opinions, politics, etc.
  - 2) God’s word guides each of our minds in the *same* direction of thought and action
- B) This is critical to accomplish the following:
  - 1) **Perfectly joined together** (1 Cor. 1:10)
  - 2) **Walking together** (Phil. 3:16)
  - 3) **Overcome personal divisions** (Phil. 4:2)
  - 4) **Doing all for will of God** (1 Pet. 4:1-2)

## III) **What Each Christian SHOULD DO**

- A) Associate with the humble (Rom. 12:16)
- B) Do not be deceived by “self-importance” [pride, egotism] (Rom. 12:16)
- C) Do *everything* possible to promote unity and peace (Rom. 12:18; 1 Pet. 3:11; Jas. 3:17-18)
  - 1) “Pursue” peace [Gk. *dioko*] – follow, pursue, persecute; idea of *seeking eagerly* (Heb. 12:14)
- D) Understand that we are in this *together* – brotherly love (1 Thess. 3:12-13; 4:9-10)!
  - 1) It will work perfectly if we are of one mind, one purpose, one goal, one body in Christ
  - 2) We are not to isolate ourselves from other Christians who can help one another
- E) Understand who the true enemy is – SATAN! We must defeat him together!
- F) Determine to apply Romans 12:9-10 and 1 Peter 3:8-9 to the person(s) that you find it hardest to apply that to – then you will have *begun* to exhibit the spirit of Christ
  - 1) Replace frowns with smiles, and tensions with joy! Our soul and God’s work depends on our willingness to be of the same mind *toward one another* in Christ

## Conclusion

Are we of the *same mind*, the one mind in Christ? Ask yourself, “What am I doing to promote, or hinder, that state of peace and unity here?” Let us determine to “be of the same mind toward one another” today and every day.