

BE ONE

Introduction

- 1) **John 10:22-30** – Jesus declares, “I and My Father are one” (v. 30)
 - a) The Father and Son work together in perfect unison for the eternal security of the faithful sheep who continually follow and obey the voice of the Jesus, the good Shepherd (vv. 27-29)
- 2) The disciples of Jesus are to “**be one**” as Jesus and the Father are one (Jn. 17:20-21)
 - a) While differences exist and are celebrated in this present world, citizens of the spiritual kingdom of heaven are to think and act in unison to the glory of God and the salvation of all
- 3) Let us consider what it is to “be one” in Christ Jesus and pleasing to God

I) **Oneness and Unity characteristic of God’s Ways**

- A) **Creation** – various parts of the universe working in harmony (Psa. 19:1)
- B) **Marriage** – two individual persons becoming one (Matt. 19:4-6)
- C) **Church** – one united body of many members (1 Cor. 12:12)

I) **The Union and Unity of Being One**

- A) We must strive for both **union** and **unity** in the Lord (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - 1) **Union** – “brethren”
 - 2) **Unity** – “speak the same thing...be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (cf. 2 Cor. 13:11)
 - 3) **Prevention** – “that there be no divisions among you”
- B) A union without unity will result in division (1 Cor. 11:18)
 - 1) Only by having one mind and one spirit can we “strive *together* for the faith of the gospel” (Phil. 1:27)
- C) Unity is possible and essential because...
 - 1) Jesus prayed for it (Jn. 17:20-21)
 - 2) The Holy Spirit teaches it (Eph. 4:3)
 - 3) The apostle Paul commanded it (1 Cor. 1:10)
 - 4) Godly people desire it (Psa. 133:1)

II) **The Basis of Being One**

- A) Our common salvation (Jude 3)
 - 1) One calling by one gospel (2 Thess. 2:13-14)
 - 2) One faith and obedience (Rom. 5:1; 6:17; Gal. 3:26-27)
 - 3) One Savior and fellowship (Gal. 3:28; 1 Cor. 1:9; 1 Cor. 12:13)
- B) Our common belief (Eph. 4:1-6)
 - 1) *One body* – the body of the saved, the church of Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:22-23)
 - 2) *One Spirit* – the Holy Spirit of promise and revelation (Eph. 1:13; 3:5)
 - 3) *One hope of your calling* – the inheritance of the Father (Eph. 1:14, 18)
 - 4) *One Lord* – Jesus, our master and messiah (Eph. 1:2, 3)
 - 5) *One faith* – the revelation of truth (Eph. 4:13)
 - 6) *One baptism* – cleansing with the washing of water by the word (Eph. 5:26)
 - 7) *One God* – the Father of glory and of Jesus the Son of God (Eph. 1:3, 17)

Conclusion

May the prayer of Jesus not be in vain – may we strive to be one together, united in mind and spirit. Unity is good and pleasant, and it reflects the wisdom and ways of God.