

## THE POWER OF UNITY

- **Jesus, the Son, prayed the perfect will of His Father!**

**John 17**

Key Verses:

vs 11b "...Holy Father, keep them **in your name**, which you have given me, **that they may be one, even as we are one.**"

vs 20-21 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.**"

- **The Father's will is the revelation on earth of His perfected love.**

Vs 22-23 "The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."

- **Jesus taught His disciples to pray "Thy Kingdom come Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."**

**Matt. 6:10, Luke 11:2**

- **The psalmist David wrote "I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law is within my heart."**

**Ps. 40:8**

- **The authority of the Son of God was released through obedience to His Father. John 5:19**

**Verse 19** "So Jesus said to them, Truly, truly, I say to you, **the Son can do nothing of His own accord**, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that **the Son does likewise.**"

**Read:**

**John 14:10**

**Authority of Holy Spirit**

**John 16:13**

- **Every Kingdom divided cannot stand**

**Matthew 12:25**

**Verse 25** "Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, **"Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand."**

- **Spiritual Power Lost by Disunity among Christians**

*“Renewal of God’s Presence and power in a fellowship of Christians continues only so long as they are reaching out to others. Denominational groups are prone to become ingrown, often being led that way by leaders seeking to establish different kinds of controls. When this happens, fellowships lose the priceless anointing they have been given. The gifts of the Holy Spirit may remain, but they jangle as a “noisy gong” or a “clanging cymbal.” These gifts, turned inward, become narcissistic and lack depth and content. Love is missing. The Kingdom of God then ceases to go forward in that particular group.*

*Disunity among themselves, an equally pernicious thing, usually begins the loss of vision. The Holy Spirit is seriously grieved by our disunity and absents Himself. We are no longer abiding in Christ.*

*In the Church, disunity is therefore one of the chief evils clogging the channels through which God’s healing power is to flow.<sup>1</sup>*

- **Does the Church really understand the significance of the Lord’s Supper? I Cor. 11:23-32**

Verses 29-30 “For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many of you are weak and ill and some have died.”

- **The Tower of Babel . . . reveals the power of perverted unity! Genesis 11:1-9**

Key Verses:

vs 4 “Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and **let us make a name for ourselves, . . .**”

vs 6 “And the Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And **nothing** that they propose to do **will now be impossible** for them.”

- **Paul’s urging for unity in the Body of Christ Ephesians 4:1-3**

Key verse 3 “**eager** to maintain the **unity of the Spirit** in the bond of peace.”

- **God reveals Himself in the midst of true spiritual unity Psalm 133:1-3**

Verses 1-3 “Behold, how **good and pleasant** it is when **brothers dwell in unity!**

**It is like** the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

**It is like** the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the **Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.**”

Reference: English Standard Version, 2002, Crossway Bible, a publishing ministry of Good News publishers.

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<sup>1</sup> The Healing Presence, Leann Payne, Baker, Chap. 3, “Spiritual Power & Authority”, p.50