

Unity in Church Body Life (Acts 4:32-37)

9/3/23

Introduction

The early church's witness was characterized by both _____ and power.

What the true church _____, it will back up with action.

Luke emphasizes that all the believers formed a closely _____ group.

The loving, unselfish _____ of the early church found a practical expression in the sharing of material _____.

The Attitude of Unity (v. 32)

The word **congregation** draws attention to the considerable _____ of the community at this point.

At the _____ level—not just the outward actions—they were in unity.

No believer in the early church at this point was even _____, much less saying that their possessions only belonged to _____.

common property (koinos) =

Since all they owned belonged to _____, when someone had a need, they were _____ to use their divine resources to meet that need.

Cross references on sharing financially with others in the church:

The Impact of Unity (v. 33)

Their evangelizing was all the more _____ because the attitude and actions of the church provided strong _____ that Jesus had changed them.

The sharing of _____ blessings among believers is portrayed as a particular sign of the _____ of God at work in this church body.

The Actions of Unity (vv. 34-35)

needy person (endees) =

Notes on what it meant to be **owners of land or houses**:

Land, home, and property owners were _____ selling things and giving the proceeds to the _____ to help the needy so they would not be _____.

The first Christian sharing of goods was not obligatory, but _____.

The way it was given was with no _____ attached, trusting the _____ to distribute it.

Notes on what **to each as any had need** means:

The common factor is a _____ spirit providing appropriate care for the _____ of others in the church.

The Example of Unity (vv. 36-37)

Having portrayed the unity of _____ enjoyed by the Jerusalem church, Luke now supplies his readers with two _____ examples: Barnabas, and _____ and Sapphira.

Notes on **Joseph Barnabas**:

Barnabas exemplified the spirit of what everyone else was _____ to do.

What we should note and seek to _____ the care of the needy and the sacrificial _____ which the Holy Spirit created in the early church.