

## Becoming One in 2021 Part 7 handout

### Unity requires Freedom.

#### 1. We cannot be in unity if we are not free to do so.

- A. We cannot belong to God and each other as long as we belong to something else that won't let us.
- B. We cannot join God's family as long as we belong to another family.
- C. After the fall of man, he related to himself and others only physically. If he was born in a Jewish family he was a Jew. If a gentile family was where he was born he was a gentile.
- D. Jesus said something profound to those who thought they were free. We become the slave of sin when we live in sin. **John 8:31-36 (KJV)**
- E. They thought that to be slaves, meant they were in bondage to someone. Jesus said they were in bondage to something - sin.
- F. Jesus said if you continue in My Word, then you are My disciples indeed, and you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.
- G. To be born a physical Jew was an event. Jesus was telling them that freedom is not an event, and it goes beyond the physical.
- H. We hear this miss quoted all of the time. "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free."
- I. Making a cake is a process involving many ingredients and procedures. Setting it freely before others to eat is an event!
- J. Freedom is a process involving discipleship and following Christ, not just an event of being born again. It's a process that takes place only as we follow Him!
- K. We will never have unity in the family, unity in the church just because we've been born again. That can only happen if we follow Him, read His Word, live in His House, by His Spirit, with His family!
- L. To be an eternal Son means we abide or make our abode in the house of the Father forever.

#### 2. We have to see freedom from God's perspective.

- A. We can't measure our freedom by how free others are. We measure freedom by the Word of God.
- B. God's plan for man and all of creation was for them to be free. Only then could they be in unity. We can't belong to something else and belong to God.
- C. Unity with freedom was God's design from the very beginning. **Genesis 3:13-19 (KJV)**
- D. Adam & Eve were born in freedom in a free creation environment. Man along with all of the creation he was placed over, were created for freedom.
- E. Their freedom ended after Adam and Eve sinned. Not only man's freedom but the freedom of all creation.
- F. Up until then, man and creation functioned in freedom the way they were created by God to function.
- G. They now live under a curse of man and creation gone wild! The curse was catastrophic, impacting not just man but all of his environment, plant life, wildlife, weather, everything.
- H. There were no storms, it never even rained. Farming was easy, without weeds or insects attacking and opposing their efforts.

- I. The curse was the result of the absence of Spiritual life which resulted when Adam and Eve died spiritually.
- J. They as God chosen representatives of creation, brought a curse upon not only themselves, but future generations and all of creation.
- K. Woman who was an equal servant of God would now be ruled instead of served and loved, and would experience pain in childbirth.
- L. Man would have to work harder to get less. Man's lifetime would be shortened.
- M. Man's whole life would now be opposed by creation and fellow man.
- N. Man would now enjoy only a carnal physical existence. He had broken his God connection to himself and all that God had entrusted to him.
- O. You've heard people question that if there was a God then how come we have wars, murder, human trafficking going on?
- P. None of these things existed until man fell into sin. It's not God's doing, it's sinful man's undoing!
- Q. When Adam and Eve chose to obey the Devil, they chose to serve the Devil and he became their master through sin. **Romans 6:16 (KJV)**
- R. They were no longer servants of God because they now obeyed another. The Devil made slaves out of them by making them enemies of God.
- S. They owed a debt they could not pay. And all of mankind and creation are now paying the price! Maybe you think that's not fair?
- T. Why should I have to catch Covid, I never gave it to anyone? Yeah but someone gave it to you so you have to deal with it!
- U. It wasn't until after the fall of Adam & Eve that their children were born into accursed world and took on the sin nature of their parents.

### **3. Jesus came to restore man's God connection. Romans 5:14-21 (KJV)**

- A. The first Adam's disobedience brought spiritual death to all men. And in like manner the second Adam, Jesus Christ's obedience, unto the death of the cross, brought the gift of salvation to all men who receive Jesus by grace.
- B. Adam made us all sinners, Jesus made us all righteous by faith. Through sin death reigned. Through grace we reign in life through Jesus Christ!
- C. The Law was given to define righteousness. It wasn't given to empower us to live right. It was the knowledge of living right, not the power to live right.
- D. It was by the law that the Devil was made guilty for his rebellion against God. He could not keep the law, but he could be judged and disqualified by it!
- E. Jesus had legal right to destroy the works of the Devil. Because they were against the law! When the Devil coordinated the crucifixion, he was proven guilty by Christ of murder. That's why He'll be punished eternally. He had no idea that it was a set up for his fall.
- F. And it was also a setup for our redemption! The law governs the living, it no longer governs the dead. So God made a way for us through Christ to escape death. Christ died for us. But because he never sinned he was risen from the dead.

G. When we believe in Christ and we're baptized in Christ, we die when He died. Death then breaks the bondage of sin and death. Then we are resurrected when He was resurrected to the newness of life! **Romans 6:1-9 (KJV)**

H. This is a process, not an event! When we are dead in Christ we are freed from sin! When we keep living like the world in the vanity of our mind, in past offenses, guilt from past sins, and fear and unbelief we keep things alive that bind us!

I. Paul said reckon yourselves to be dead unto sin. To reckon yourself means to take inventory, impute, think on, reason and conclude.

J. That means we have to resolve the damage that sin has done to our hearts and minds. This involves replacing lies with the truth, undoing the bondages and healing of our past wounds.

K. Jesus spoke about this in His first sermon in a synagogue. **Luke 4:18-22 (KJV)**

L. The acceptable year of the Lord is speaking of the coming Messiah to bring God's grace, favor and blessing to His people. We must learn how to receive God's love, acceptance and forgiveness. Our sinful life never taught us that.

M. We have lived in the flesh and now we have to learn how to live in the Spirit. That's a battle we must learn how to win. **Romans 7:18-24 (KJV)**

N. Paul doesn't there in verse 24. He tells us how we can win victory over the flesh and sin. **Romans 7:25 (KJV)**

O. We've been given the victory through Jesus Christ! **Romans 8:1-2 (KJV)**

We will never be free and experience unity with God and His people as long as we keep thinking, hurting and behaving like we did before Christ came into our lives.