Unbreakable Unity

Pastor Anthony J. Shetley Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024

The church is a priceless asset to the follower of Christ. It is truly a pearl of great price. It is a priceless asset to this world altogether with its eternal qualities of salt and light. Among all of its treasures, none is no greater nor essential than its unity.

Unity protects and preserves the fellowship we all have in the Holy Spirit with each other, but more importantly, with God our heavenly Father and His Son, our savior, Jesus Christ! For this purpose, our unity must remain UNBREAKABLE and UNPENETRATABLE.

Ephesians 4:1-3

The divisiveness caused by jealousy, envy, hatred, and malice must not be allowed to breach our bond of peace which comes through our unity in the Spirit. These things belong to the domain of Satan, they are demonic and of this world; they are not of God and therefore they do not belong in the household of God.

When it comes to our unity, we can't afford to even crack the door for the devil. NO! We must remain diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Our Weapons of Defense.

Our most precious treasure is also our greatest and strongest weapon and that is the love of God. We preserve our unity in the Spirit by showing and sharing the love of God which has been freely given unto us.

1 John 4:10–11 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

The cross has spoken! God's love has been demonstrated! Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. How we treat each other is VITAL!!!

God's love is longsuffering, forgiving, and merciful. The love of God is a committed love, a constant love, a never-ending love – an unbreakable love.

Therefore, we must be patient, forgiving, and merciful towards one another. We must be committed to each other in love. Our love must be constant and unbreakable!

Instructions for the Last Days.

The bible tells us that as we see the day of the Lord approaching, that we must not forsake our assembling together but to do it more. Why? We need each other in our endurance.

1 John 5:1 - If we love God, then we will love the children of God; desiring fellowship; desiring to bless and to share.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

We can overcome offenses, insults, injustices, and trespasses done against us by practicing the love of God. Our enemy would desire to take from us this love; he would to breakdown our unity in the Spirit, and in doing so, infiltrate our church and break our fellowship with one another and with Christ. Would you or would I give such an opportunity to the devil?

(The Fight of a Shepherd – John 10:11-13)

The Refuge of the Church.

Proverbs 18:10 The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe. **Matthew 21:13** It is written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

Read Psalm 133 > one of the psalms (songs) the pilgrims sang as they came to Jerusalem for one of the three major annual festivals.

- <u>Pleasant</u> brings joy; blessing; joyful peace.
- Precious oil expensive; filled with fragrance; (spirit of unity love of God)
- Upon the head down upon the beard down upon the edge of his robes = bountiful
- The dew of Mt. Hermon Heavy dew like rain even in the dry months producing lush greenery.
- Coming down to Mt. Zion the place where they gathered for worship.

We must be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace - Ephesians 4:3