

Message Four

The Practice of the Proper One Accord in the Church

Scripture Reading: Rom. 15:5-6; 1 Cor. 1:10; Phil. 1:27; Jer. 32:39

- I. If we would be in one accord, we must learn to be in one spirit with one soul—Phil. 1:27:**
- A. We need to turn to our spirit and then enter into our soul with one spirit so that we may be in one accord—v. 27; 2:2, 5; 4:2.
 - B. The secret of experiencing Christ is to be like-souled in the Body life, genuinely caring for the things of Christ Jesus—1:27; 2:21:
 - 1. If we would experience Christ to the fullest extent in the Body and for the Body, we need to be like-souled—vv. 2, 19-20.
 - 2. Because Timothy was like-souled with Paul, he was in the position to experience Christ to the uttermost in the Body—1 Cor. 4:16-17; 16:10.
- II. In order to practice the one accord, we should “be attuned in the same mind and in the same opinion”—1:10:**
- A. The problem in the church life that keeps us from realizing the one accord is our opinion—Matt. 16:22-25; Phil. 2:2; 4:2.
 - B. In the Lord’s work, in the church life, and in the spiritual life, the greatest damaging factor is our opinion—1 Cor. 1:10-13a.
 - C. Our usefulness before the Lord depends greatly on the matter of opinion—7:25, 40.
 - D. The Corinthian believers needed to be mended in order to be perfectly joined together so that they might be in harmony, having the same mind and the same opinion to speak the same thing—Christ and His cross—1:10, 17-19, 22-24; 2:2.
- III. If we would have the proper one accord in the church life, we need to be of the same mind and think the same thing, the one thing—Rom. 12:16; 15:5; Phil. 2:2; 4:2:**
- A. The entire Bible has one mouth and speaks the same thing—Heb. 1:1-2a.
 - B. In the church life we all need to take Christ as our person in the matter of speaking—Matt. 12:34-37; Eph. 3:17a; John 7:16-18; 8:28, 38a; 12:49-50; 14:10.
 - C. If we all take Christ as our person and as our life, spontaneously we will all speak the same thing—Eph. 3:17a; Col. 3:4; 1 Cor. 1:10.
 - D. *With one accord* and *with one mouth* (Rom. 15:6) mean that even though we are many and all are speaking, we all “speak the same thing”—1 Cor. 1:10:
 - 1. The church is the one new man with only one person—Christ—and this person controls our speaking; thus, whatever He speaks is surely “the same thing.”
 - 2. When we are about to speak, we need to resolve a basic question: in this matter of speaking, am I the person or is Christ the person?
 - 3. If in our speaking we do not take ourselves as the person but allow Christ to be the person, then there will be one mouth, and everyone will speak the same thing.
 - E. To be in one accord is to be one in our whole being, and this results in our being one in our outward speaking—Rom. 15:5-6:

1. To have one mind and one mouth means that we have only one Head—Christ—because only the Head has a mind and a mouth; we should think with the mind of Christ and speak with the mouth of the Head—Col. 1:18a; Phil. 2:2, 5; 4:2.
2. Whenever we are in one accord, we speak the same thing; we speak with one mouth.
3. The only way to be with one accord and one mouth is to allow Christ the room to be everything in our heart and in our mouth so that God may be glorified—Eph. 3:17a, 21.

IV. If we would be in one accord, we need to have one heart and one way—Jer. 32:39:

- A. Believers are divided because they take many different ways other than Christ—John 14:6; 1 Cor. 1:30.
- B. We, the chosen people of God, should all have one heart—to love God, to seek God, to live God, and to be constituted with God so that we may be His expression—and one way—the Triune God Himself as our inner law of life with its divine capacity—Mark 12:30; Jer. 31:33-34; John 14:6a.
- C. This one heart and one way are the one accord—Acts 1:14; 2:46; Rom. 15:6.
- D. Divisions result from having a heart for something other than Christ and taking a way other than Christ.

V. In order to be in one accord, we should have only one “scale” in the church life—Deut. 25:13-16:

- A. The dishonest practice of having differing weights and measures is a lie and is surely from Satan—John 8:44.
- B. In spiritual application, to condemn a certain thing in others while justifying the same thing in ourselves indicates that we have different weights and measures, that is, different scales—one scale for measuring others and a different scale for measuring ourselves.
- C. In the house of God, the church (1 Tim. 3:15), only one scale should be used to weigh everyone.
- D. The practice of having different scales is the source of discord; instead of keeping the oneness and the one accord, we have discord.
- E. We all need to receive mercy from the Lord to no longer have differing scales but, like our God, to have the same scale for everyone.
- F. If we have only one scale, we will keep the oneness and have the real one accord in the church—Eph. 4:1-3; Matt. 7:1-5.
- G. If we have only one “scale,” we will be fair, just, and righteous, even as God is, and we will keep the oneness and the one accord in the church.

VI. For the Lord’s up-to-date move, all the churches need to be in one accord—Josh. 1:16-18; 6:1-16:

- A. We should all voice the same thing, trumpet the same thing, and teach the same thing—1 Cor. 4:17; 7:17; 16:1; Acts 2:42; Rom. 16:17; 1 Tim. 1:4-5; 6:3.
- B. All the churches should also be the same in practice; if the churches are not the same in practice, this will damage the one accord—1 Cor. 11:16.
- C. In the Lord’s recovery, and especially in His up-to-date move, we must see that the crucial need today is the recovery of the one accord—Acts 1:14.