



Sermon Guide: Unity in the Body of Christ (4/1/2023)

Join us **tomorrow, Sunday (4/2/2023)**, at **7 PM** on Zoom for Sermon Essentials to dive deeper into today's message. You can use the link <https://zoom.us/j/285038684> or call 312.626.6799 and enter the ID 285 038 684 to be a part of the discussion.

Read *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, chapter 32, "The Spirit of Independence"

Text: Matthew 12:25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand."

Unity

Reference verses: John 17:20-23

1. According to Jesus' prayer, why does the world know we have been sent by Christ?

Many Parts, One Body

Reference verse: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 12:3-5; Ephesians 4:12-16

2. Why is the body such an excellent example of the believer's unity in Christ?

3. Unity in Christ creates equality or equity? Explain.

4. What are two reasons unity in the Church is important?

a.

b.



The Results of Unity

Reference verses: Colossians 3:12-17

5. How does unity in the Church manifest itself in visible ways?

6. The unity Paul describes is what the early Christians experienced. What was the result of their unity?

7. What does the above fact tell us about what unity in the Church will accomplish today?

The Dividers

Reference verses: Matthew 7:15-16; Acts 20:29-30

8. The Bible equates those who bring division into the Church as what type of animal? Why is this an accurate analogy?

Reference verse: 2 Timothy 3:1-9

9. Paul sees a comparison to the Egyptian magicians Jannes and Jambres with those who are described as having the “form of godliness.” What other comparison does he make in verse 9?

Reflection

10. Think about your unity with Christ and fellow Christians. In what ways can you improve and encourage that unity in your congregation?

“If God’s professed people would receive the light as it shines upon them from His word, they would reach that unity for which Christ prayed...” – Ellen White, *The Great Controversy*, 379