

We Are Many Members

1 Corinthians 12:3-7 KJVS

[3] Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and **that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.** [4] Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. [5] And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. [6] And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. [7] But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 KJVS

[12] **For as the body is one, and hath many members,** and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. [13] For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. [14] For the body is not one member, but many.

Everything begins with the Lordship of Jesus Christ. In this context Lordship means the total surrendering of the human will and spirit to the purpose of Jesus Christ. This includes bringing our individual personality differences and gifts to the vision of Jesus Christ for lost souls through the local church of the Five Fold Ministry.

Ephesians 4:2-5 AMPC

[2] Living as becomes you] with complete lowliness of mind (humility) and meekness (unselfishness, gentleness, mildness), with patience, bearing with one another and making allowances because you love one another. [3] Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of [and produced by] the Spirit in the binding power of peace. [4] [There is] one body and one Spirit-just as there is also one hope [that belongs] to the calling you received- [5] [There is] one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

Ephesians 4:11-16 AMPC

[11] And His gifts were [varied; He Himself appointed and gave men to us] some to be apostles (special messengers), some prophets (inspired preachers and expounders), some evangelists (preachers of the Gospel, traveling missionaries), some pastors (shepherds of His flock) and teachers. [12] His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), [that they should do] the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church), [13] [That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [full and accurate] knowledge of the Son of God, that [we might arrive] at really mature manhood (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ and the completeness found in Him. [14] So then, we may no longer be children, tossed [like ships] to and fro between chance gusts of teaching and wavering with every changing wind of doctrine, [the prey of] the cunning and cleverness of unscrupulous men, [gamblers engaged] in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead. [15] Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth [in all things, speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly]. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him Who is the Head, [even] Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One). [16] For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments

with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its need] is working properly [in all its functions], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.

Lordship means you and I taking our individual differences and ideologies and submitting them to the leadership of a local church or fellowship to fulfill the scriptures we just read. Lordship is about willingly in love bringing my differences in philosophies, ideologies, cultures, and personalities under the accountability of the Apostolic Five Fold Ministry for the use of service anyway God seems fit. When I see my philosophies different, better or more legitimate than what the local church is doing, I am now wrestling with other issues such as a hidden strong dislike to the agendas of the local church. I never really brought my motives and attitudes of dislikes about the local church and its members under the Lordship of Jesus Christ This is largely for three reasons:

1. I have been wounded in the past from leadership and never received healing from feeling controlled.
2. I simply don't like the culture, the mindsets of the members and it causes me to remain truly non committal to the organic one on one discipleship of someone outside of my value system, and
3. I am struggling to mature in selfless servant hood through self validated presumption and pride.

Servants have no rights because they gave up lordship to their masters (Jesus Christ). He facilitates this Lordship through the local church.

Exodus 21:5-6 AMPC

[5] But if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go free, [6] Then his master shall bring him to God [the judges as His agents]; he shall bring him to the door or doorpost and shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him for life.

All members of a body use their individuality to the greater good of the head which is Jesus Christ. This is not mindless living but royalty privilege because Jesus sees our acts of submission as giving Him and His name glory and honor to His Kingdom. He knows the pain, hardship, and wrongs we go through in order to live in this manner. From this mindset we are supposed to experience transformative peace and unity with each other. Their should never be under current resentments and regrets because of our decisions. Otherwise we are trying to comply with man and not submission with joy.

1 Corinthians 10:31 AMPC

[31] So then, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you may do, do all for the honor and glory of God.

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