

## 7 Ones- Ephesians 4

### Unity Comes from – One Body

#### 1.) **One Body -**

- a. Meaning the Body of Christ, the Spiritual Fellowship of Believers (Eph 1:23)
  - i. “Local Assembly of Believers” (Nelson’s Bible Dictionary)
  - ii. The Spiritual Church (Eph 1:18-23)
  - iii. Church = *ekklesia* (#1577) = “called out ones”; “assembly”
    1. 115x used in the NT; 92 times referring to a local congregation
  - iv. “Called into one body” (Col 3:15)
  - v. The Church/Body is People in Christ (1 Cor 1:1-3)
  - vi. Saints are people called out of the sinful world
  - vii. “...the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Thess 1:1) – referring to all the members who belong to God in Christ who live in Thessalonica
  - viii. Purchased by God with the blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28); just as the saint is redeemed by the blood
  - ix. Saul persecuted the “church” (members/saints) which are called the church of God (Gal 1:13)
- b. Entrance into the One Body
  - i. “By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body” (1 Cor 12:13)
    1. See: Titus 3:4-7; Col 2:11-12; Jn 3:5; Rom 6:3-7; Eph 5:25-27; 1 Peter 3:21
- c. Function of Members
  - i. 1 Cor 12:12, 20 – All members are part of the body because Christ is One
    1. There are many members of the body, but only one body
  - ii. Rom 12:4-5ff – Do not have the same function
    1. Being part of the body, this also means that we are members of one another (connected)
- d. Unification of the One Body
  - i. 1 Cor 10:17 – partaking together of communion
  - ii. 1 Cor 12:27 – We are Individual members also
- e. Metaphor of the Church as a Physical Body
  - i. 1 Cor 12:15-27
    1. Our differences make us unique in our service (v15)
      - a. We were never intended to be the same (v17)
    2. God places each member where He wants them (v18)
      - a. We do not place ourselves
    3. We need each other (v21)
      - a. Weaker members are necessary(v22)
      - b. We need them so we help them, support them (v23)
    4. God made the body to heal and protect its weaker parts (v24)
      - a. Why? “that there may be no division in the body” (v25)
      - b. All are cared for equally, though they be different (v25)
    5. Our unity in the body creates shared experiences (v26)
      - a. If one suffers or is honored, we all share the pain and joy
    6. In the body we still retain our individuality and individual relationship w/ Christ (v27)