

Introduction

Scripture

- **Ephesians 4:13 (Amp)**

¹³[That it might develop] until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the [^afull 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 the Christ and the completeness found in Him.

This week as we look at revelation, I find it quite interesting that on Tuesday, when I went to a prayer meeting, the ministers were praying for unity.

I find this quite amazing, as God does not take our will away from us. So why do we have to pray for God to do something when the Word of God tells us to walk in unity, it is an act of our will.

If we are all Sons of God, we come together as part of a family and a body living in the revelation of who we are and in unity. We can have differences, but, those differences should not bring disunity.

So if we are not together in unity and we do not see each other as brothers in Christ, that means we are dysfunctional. We are living on an unbalanced diet.

If we have a revelation of the completed work of Christ and an understanding of who we are in God, and we see other Christians as brothers how can we have disunity?

So, as we look at these scriptures this week, we need to come to the revelation in verse 13 of the knowledge of the Son of God, that we become mature, not infants, not spoon fed from the pulpit each Sunday, but understanding who we are by our reading of the Word and Christ being formed in us.

If we are really going to become a unified body we need to stop trying to make people like us, so that we become clones.

God has given you a uniqueness, that you are special in His eyes. He did not create you to become somebody else. He is very happy the way He created you.

If a finger cannot be an arm, why is it that we want every Christian to be like us or the way we are and think they should be instead of accepting that they are a work in progress, as we are.

Scripture

- **Ephesians 4:14 (Amp)**

¹⁴So 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 [^aunscrupulous men, [gamblers engaged] in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead.

In this verse Paul is saying that he doesn't want people to be tossed to and fro like ships.

That is why Jesus gave the church the Ephesians four giftings, to prepare us for works of service, but the common lack when we travel around is idleness, lack of understanding of who we are, lack of revelation which causes people to be idle and think they are not good enough, they don't have enough character.

But, if we are doing the work that He prepared for us, and the body is functioning and it is not constipated, there would be less people being tossed to and fro, chasing every wind of doctrine.

Scripture

- **Philemon 1:6 (Amp)**

⁶[And I pray] that the participation in and sharing of your faith may produce and promote full recognition and appreciation and understanding and precise knowledge of every good [thing] that is ours in [our identification with] Christ Jesus [and unto His glory].

- 1) We need to be participators in sharing our faith which will promote and produce:
 - a. Every good thing we have in Christ,
 - b. Understanding and knowledge of who we are,
 - c. Our identification with Christ.

Christianity is not based on performance or being a spectator, flashing lights, or hiding behind our so called love doctrine, it is based on participation and the power of the Holy Ghost.

As we live out of the revelation of who we are, the accomplished work of Christ and our righteousness, we will share the good news, and we will be in unity.

Scripture

- **1 Corinthians 9:16 (Amp)**

¹⁶For if I [merely] preach the Gospel, that gives me no reason to boast, for I feel compelled of necessity to do it. Woe is me if I do not preach the glad tidings (the Gospel)!

- 1) Paul is speaking here about preaching the gospel, how he felt compelled to do so, and
- 2) How he felt the necessity to do so.

He says, Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel. How many times do you hear people say "woe is me."

WOE = *Grieve and sorrow*

If you read verse fourteen in the amplified there are unscrupulous people, it is really talking about preachers that engage in inventing errors and false doctrine to control people, manipulate and flatter, instead of doing what Jesus said to do, which is to prepare people and release people into their God given destiny so they would be fruitful, stable and growing up into their head of the knowledge and revelation of who they are in the Kingdom.

If we can take our hands off trying to build the church, preach the Kingdom and the revelation of the finished work of Christ, which, really psalm 23 talks about.

Scripture

Psalm 23 (NIV)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

We need a revelation of:

- 1) (Verse 1) His Lordship
- 2) (Verse 2) His provision
- 3) (Verse 3) His peace
- 4) (Verse 4) His restoring power
- 5) His guidance
- 6) His righteousness
- 7) That there is no fear
- 8) His comfort
- 9) (Verse 5) His provision
- 10) Anointing
- 11) (Verse 6) His Goodness
- 12) Our place of Residence
- 13) His love
- 14) His faithfulness

Conclusion

If we have a balanced diet of the Ephesians four gifting operating as Jesus put them in the church it will be the ministry of Jesus operating from the pulpit, and the revelation of Him being formed in us.

Too many Christians are living at the cross, at the tomb, and looking forward to the cross instead, of living out of psalm 23 at the finished work of the cross looking back at the victory of the cross and living out of righteousness and resurrection power.

Jesus did not come to the earth to give us a hand out, He came to give us a hand up which is illustrated in psalm 23 where He says, "I have prepared a table for you in the presence of your enemies", so most of us are living off the table of the church, which is sympathy, (help me, feed me, love me, all about me), whereas we should be living off the table of the Kingdom, which is compassion, (focussed on others), grace, not allowing people to manipulate us, flatter us and hold us in a place which does not bring us to the unity and revelation of who we are in Christ.