

HOW TO LIVE BETWEEN HIS COMINGS:

It's All About Relationships - John 13-17

"UNITY THAT CAN'T BE IGNORED"

John 17:20-23

Relating to One Another: Servanthood (John 13:1-17); Love (13:31-35)

Relating to the Lord Jesus: Loyalty (John 13:18-30, 36-38); Faith (14:1-11); Prayer (14:12-14); Love (14:15-24);

Peace (14:27-31; 16:33); Abiding (15:1-11); Friendship (15:12-17); Joy (16:16-33); Glorification (17:1-5); His Relationship with His Own (17:6-10); His Requests for His Own: Protection, Sanctification, Unification

Relating to the Holy Spirit: Yieldedness (John 14:16-17, 25-26; 15:26-27; 16:7-15) (17:11-26)

Relating to the World: Rejection (John 15:18-25; 16:1-6); Evangelism (John 17:18) 9/29/19

MAIN IDEA: The unity that we have in Christ should draw the attention of the world around us.

I. THE _____ FOR UNITY: _____ IT ____ (John 17:21-23)

A. What unity ____

- ❖ The _____ unity of believers is already a _____--we are ____ in the Body (Eph. 2:11-18).
- ❖ In the Body there are no _____, _____, or _____ distinctions (Gal. 3:28).
- ❖ We must make every effort to _____ the unity, not _____ it (Eph. 4:1-6; cp. Phil. 2:1-4; I Cor. 12:25-26; I Pet. 3:8-9).
- ❖ Some believers do not _____ this unity—they are _____ in their practice and relationships (I Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1-4).
- ❖ When we demonstrate unity, it becomes a powerful _____ to the world (Jn17:21,23).

B. What unity is _____

- ❖ It is not _____--not an absolute similarity of organization, style, personality, and appearance.
- ❖ It is not _____--absolute agreement or opinion within a group of people.
- ❖ It is not _____--absolute coalition or tight affiliation within ranks of Christianity. (Above three taken from Chuck Swindoll, "Beholding Christ. . . the Lamb of God," p. 45)
- ❖ It is not an organizational, denominational, or ecumenical unity.
 - The unity of _____, not a mixture of believers and unbelievers
 - Not unity at expense of _____, but unity ____ truth (John 17:6,14,17,19; Eph. 4:11-16)
 - Not what we _____ do, but what Christ has _____ done (17:21-23)
 - A _____ unity, not an _____ unity (17:21)
- ❖ It doesn't negate or cancel the need for _____ (I Cor.5; II Cor.6:14-18; II Thess.3:6-15).

II. THE _____ FOR UNITY: _____ IT _____ (John 17:21-23)

A. We should be one because the _____ and the _____ are one, and we are one in them (John 17:21, 23).

B. We should be one because of the _____ which He has given us (John 17:22).

III. THE _____ OF UNITY: _____ IT _____ (John 17:22-23)

A. We should be one in order that the _____ may _____ that the Father sent the Son (John 17:22).

B. We should be one in order that the world may _____ that the Father sent the Son and that the _____ has loved us (John 17:23).

Four evidences in our lives that will catch the world's attention:

- ❖ Our _____ (John 13:34-35)
- ❖ Our _____ (John 17:21-23)
- ❖ Our _____ (I Pet. 2:11-12; Matt. 5:16)
- ❖ Our _____ (I Pet. 3:15)

- ✓ *You are one in Christ with every other believer. . . . _____ this unity.*
- ✓ *Your oneness with other believers must be visible. . . . _____ this unity.*
- ✓ *Your oneness is being observed by the world. . . . _____ this unity to point them to Christ.*

HOW TO LIVE BETWEEN HIS COMINGS:

It's All About Relationships - John 13-17

“UNITY THAT CAN'T BE IGNORED”

John 17:20-23

Relating to One Another: Servanthood (John 13:1-17); Love (13:31-35)

Relating to the Lord Jesus: Loyalty (John 13:18-30, 36-38); Faith (14:1-11); Prayer (14:12-14); Love (14:15-24);

Peace (14:27-31; 16:33); Abiding (15:1-11); Friendship (15:12-17); Joy (16:16-33); Glorification (17:1-5); His Relationship with His Own (17:6-10); His Requests for His Own: Protection, Sanctification, Unification

Relating to the Holy Spirit: Yieldedness (John 14:16-17, 25-26; 15:26-27; 16:7-15) (17:11-26)

Relating to the World: Rejection (John 15:18-25; 16:1-6); Evangelism (John 17:18)

9/29/19

MAIN IDEA: The unity that we have in Christ should draw the attention of the world around us.

I. THE REQUEST FOR UNITY: WHAT IT IS (John 17:21-23)

A. *What unity is*

- ❖ The *positional* unity of believers is already a *reality*—we are *one* in the Body (Eph. 2:11-18).
- ❖ In the Body there are no *racial, economic, or sexual* distinctions (Gal. 3:28).
- ❖ We must make every effort to *protect* the unity, not *produce* it (Eph. 4:1-6; cp. Phil. 2:1-4; I Cor. 12:25-26; I Pet. 3:8-9).
- ❖ Some believers do not *demonstrate* this unity—they are *divided* in their practice and relationships (I Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1-4).
- ❖ When we demonstrate unity, it becomes a powerful *testimony* to the world (Jn17:21,23).

B. *What unity is not*

- ❖ It is not *uniformity*—not an absolute similarity of organization, style, personality, and appearance.
- ❖ It is not *unanimity*—absolute agreement or opinion within a group of people.
- ❖ It is not *union*—absolute coalition or tight affiliation within ranks of Christianity. (*Above three taken from Chuck Swindoll, “Beholding Christ. . . the Lamb of God,” p. 45*)
- ❖ It is not an organizational, *denominational*, or ecumenical unity.
 - *The unity of believers, not a mixture of believers and unbelievers*
 - *Not unity at expense of truth, but unity in truth (John 17:6,14,17,19; Eph. 4:11-16)*
 - *Not what we should do, but what Christ has already done (17:21-23)*
 - *A spiritual unity, not an organizational unity (17:21)*
- ❖ It doesn't negate or cancel the need for *separation* (I Cor.5; II Cor.6:14-18; II Thess.3:6-15).

II. THE REASON FOR UNITY: WHY IT EXISTS (John 17:21-23)

A. *We should be one because the Father and the Son are one, and we are one in them (John 17:21, 23).*

B. *We should be one because of the glory which He has given us (John 17:22).*

III. THE RESULT OF UNITY: WHAT IT PRODUCES (John 17:22-23)

A. *We should be one in order that the world may believe that the Father sent the Son (John 17:22).*

B. *We should be one in order that the world may know that the Father sent the Son and that the Father has loved us (John 17:23).*

Four evidences in our lives that will catch the world's attention:

- ❖ Our *love* (John 13:34-35)
- ❖ Our *unity* (John 17:21-23)
- ❖ Our *good works* (I Pet. 2:11-12; Matt. 5:16)
- ❖ Our *hope* (I Pet. 3:15)

- ✓ *You are one in Christ with every other believer. . . . recognize this unity.*
- ✓ *Your oneness with other believers must be visible. . . . demonstrate this unity.*
- ✓ *Your oneness is being observed by the world. . . . use this unity to point them to Christ.*

