

1  **Unity-Mark of a Maturing Church Part 2**

Ephesians 1:3-14, 2:14-18

Ephesians 1 and 2

2  **John 17:20-23**

- God did not send an evangelism program or a marketing method that the world may know Christ. Instead He sent His Son and gathered a people in Him to show their visible unity in Him, in order that others would come to know Him.

3 

**"Gentlemen! Let's remember, the enemy is over there!"**

4  **Who is the Enemy and Who is in Charge?**

John 17:21-22

*...that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one;*

5 

1

*...as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, (From Eph. 5:22-24)*

2

Ephesians 6:12 (NASB)

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

6  **Ephesians Chapter One What God has Done (Eph. 1:3-22)**

7  **Fellowship of the Chosen**

Election is to Holiness...

Ephesians 1:4 (NASB) *just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him.*

8  **Fellowship of the Redeemed**

*"Redeemer is the name specifically of the Christ of the Cross. Whenever we pronounce it, the cross is placarded before our eyes and our hearts are filled with loving remembrance not only that Christ has given us salvation, but that he paid a mighty price for it."*

--B.B.Warfield--

9 

10  **Fellowship in Christ**

Ephesians 1:11-14 (NASB)

*In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory. In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.*

11 

...But into this divided world came a new breed of people, people whose lives were transformed by the Holy Spirit and who were united in Christ despite their differences.”

--Boice--

12  **Christ is the General of our Faith**

Ephesians 1:22-23

*And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.*

13  **Ephesians Chapter Two**                      **Then and Now**

14  **New Life in Christ**

15 

Ephesians 2:6

*...and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus*

16 

- Christ is the basis of our peace with God and God expects us to practice the same peace with one another.

17  **If we don't---**  
**the high cost of conflict**

- Born again Christians in the U.S. file 4 to 8 million lawsuits every year, often against other Christians, costing 20 to 40 billion dollars.
- There are approximately 19,000 major, scarring church conflicts in the U.S. each year (an average of 50 per day).
- 35% of born again Christians who have been married have gone through a divorce, the same percentage as our general population.
- 1,500 pastors leave their assignments every month in the U.S. because of conflict, burnout, or moral failure, costing the church at least \$684 million each year.