

In UNITY is STRENGTH

"Only let your conduct be worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the Faith of the Gospel, and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of Salvation, and that from God. For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me." Philippians 1:27-30

United for Victory

The motto of the Transvaal was *Eendragt Maakt Magt* (In Unity is Strength). This was the motto of the Wencommando that Andries Pretorius adopted as they rode out in 1838 to deal with the threat of Dingaan's Impis after their treachery and massacres at Bloukraans River and what is now called Weenen. There is strength in unity - for good or ill.

United to Crucify Christ

We can see that our enemies are united. The enemies of Christ united to crucify Him. There was not much in common between the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Scribes, the Herodians and the Romans. Yet they co-operated to crucify Christ. In Jerusalem the enemies of Christ had nothing much in common except that they worked together when it came to the illegal trial, shameful abuse, torture and crucifixion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The UN Co-operate for Evil

Our enemies know the benefits and power of unity. The United Nations, which are neither united, nor nations, work together often. Muslims, radical Jihadists, feminists, Marxists, socialists, New Agers, Greens, they can all work together against Christian interests time and again. What do the secular humanists, the religious liberals, LGBT, transgender, GayGB, Pink Inquisition and Muslim Jihadists have in common? They work together because they hate Christ and Christians.

Divided and Divisive

Christians are often divided on almost anything. Some Christians are not only divided, they are divisive, schismatic and continually attacking one another, even within the same denomination! In America some ask what denomination are you? When I reply Baptist. They ask: What type of Baptist? What do you mean what type of Baptist? There are apparently 36 different types of Baptists in America. Are you Premillennial, Amillennial, or Postmillennial? Are you Pre-Tribulation rapture, Mid-Tribulation rapture, Pre-Wrath rapture or a Post-Tribulation rapture? Many fight over tongues, baptism, forms of church government and eschatology! Even Christians within the same denomination, who have almost everything in common, fight because of envy, jealousy, back-biting, gossip and misunderstandings, sometimes for no other reason than hearsay and gossip.

Missing the Big Picture

Christians refuse to work with other Christians in spite of urgent necessity, even in some of the most important issues. In recent elections in America, which have clearly been between anti-Christ New World Order pagans who are hell bent on destroying everything Christian, and those committed to opposing Islamisation and national suicide. Yet there are those who said they will only make a protest vote for a third-party candidate, which could guarantee that the leftist democrat agenda candidate wins. Not thinking enough about the big picture, or what impact this could have on future generations. I have pleaded with them: Do you realise your elections are not just about your domestic economy, it is about foreign policy. As you have a government that seems to think that they can be the policeman of the world and that they can bomb and bully countries all over the world, often to the detriment of Christians.

The Carnage Caused by Carter

Think of the havoc caused during the years of US President, Jimmy Carter. 13 countries were betrayed to communism, including Rhodesia. The US also betrayed the Shah of Iran, one of their best allies in the Middle East, into the hands of the Ayatollah Khomeini whose Islamic radicals are still causing trouble. We have still not seen the end of it in Iran, and that is thanks to Jimmy Carter's legacy. Mugabe and the Ayatollah are part of the many legacies left by that so-called Christian candidate, who is as liberal and leftist as they come. Friends of mine attended Carter's Bible study and said that there is little about the Bible in Jimmy Carter's Sunday school. It is in keeping with the New World Order agenda. The man is using Christianity as a thin veneer, much like Desmond Tutu does in our country, to promote a very secular revolutionary Marxist agenda.

Anti-Christian Agenda Advanced

We have seen it with Clinton, Carter, Mandela, Obama, with the Islamic Invasion Trojan Horse that seeks to swamp and Islamise Europe. We have seen how divergent groups, who have almost nothing in common, still work together for an anti-Christian agenda.

We are Involved in a War

Why can Christians not co-operate and work together for the fulfilment of the Great Commission? Why is it that you cannot get the average Christian to even co-operate with other churches in their own area, let alone across the world? There is something wrong. They are failing to see the big picture. They are failing to be team players. Instead of unity in Christ, unity on the Bible, unity of purpose, unity in this world war of worldviews, unity in this cultural war that we are involved in there is disunity. Instead of a unity against those who persecute the Church and unity with Christians who are under persecution.

The Gift of Criticism

We see people with the gift of criticism and the ministry of discouragement, schismatics, those isolationism. Jealousy, envy, all kinds of denominational division, empire building and majoring on the minors sabotage our service. People decide to cause absolute eruptions over the smallest issues. This was seen as we struggled to mobilise tens-of-thousands of people to march to parliament in 1995 and 1996. That took a lot of work. In fact it took 6 weeks of arguing and bickering, week by week where leaders came from all around concerned about the direction we were going. It was obvious that this new constitution was going to be secular humanist, pro-abortion, pro-homosexuality and anti-family. I had to stand up and try to reason with them as they were arguing over minor issues.

Fighting the Wrong Enemy

One massive argument was caused by one of our friends, who was arguing over the wording in our constitution: "*In humble submission to Almighty God.*" They insisted: "*No it has to be in the Name of the Triune God.*" But nowhere in the Bible does God describe Himself as the Triune God. We know He is the Trinity, but He describes Himself as Almighty God. Why can we not use a term that God has used, which is less divisive and which will unite the largest number of people? Our Republic's constitution had been "*In humble submission to Almighty God.*" We have over a century tradition here. Let us stay with that. These Christians were suggesting that you deny the Trinity if you use "*Almighty God*". Yet that is the most common term used by God Himself, in the Bible, to describe God. Some people were storming out, refusing to co-operate in the march to parliament over trivialities, things that were not even the issue.

The Main Thing is to Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing

The ANC government wanted to shut down every single church meeting in any school classroom, government building, city hall or town hall. They were moving in a way that would clamp down on religious freedom so that we could not have Christian radio stations or Christian schools. They were going for the jugular and we needed to make a strong stand. Instead many were portraying

petty small-mindedness and were bickering with fellow believers. Yet, by God's grace we did have hundreds of pastors who supported us and we managed to march over 30,000 people to parliament. This definitely threw several spanners in the works of Mandela's communist agenda. So much so that he summoned me to his mansion to see if he could talk me out of our opposition. Nevertheless, we had a lot more of a sense of urgency at the time and Christians were more ready to get involved in the mid-90s.

Distracted, Dis-informed and Disengaged

It has been hard to replicate that since. Why? Because many Christians are distracted and dis-informed. They are victims of misinformation and disinformation. Most of our people are getting their information from SABC, CNN, or BBC, which are tools of the New World Order. Most main stream media are just there to dis-inform. They do not give a Christian Biblical worldview perspective on any issues. Because our people are misinformed, dis-informed and distracted, they are dis-engaged - not involved. Somewhere singing their battle songs in their barracks, but refusing to get into the battlefields and obey their commanding officer to use their weapons. They sing about their weapons, but do not use them!

The Globalists are Facing Serious Resistance

Our enemies today know the importance of unity and they are often working in unity. The European Union, which praise God, is suffering some serious major setbacks. The United Nations, which is suffering serious setbacks, and the African Union, which praise God, has lost its way and is going over the edge of the cliff. Just as well, because Gaddafi and Mbeki were jostling with one another as to who was going to be the first president of Africa in the AU. Now they are both out of the picture. The African Union is not going where it was meant to go and right now the United States population seems to not be listening to the New World Order and behaving themselves. The US is actually considering an outsider, who is not a politician, as a presidential candidate. That could really upset the North American Union dramatically. This is good. Praise God that He alone answers prayer. The Word of God is effective. We can still throw spanners into the works of the New World Order machine, delaying and derailing them.

Biblical Unity

In the Scripture we receive so many commands for unity. Not the fake unity of the World Council Churches and the Roman Catholic apostates, but Biblical unity as in Philippians 1:27: ***"Only let your conduct be worthy of the Gospel of Christ..."*** We are talking about standing fast in one spirit with one mind striving together for the Faith of the Gospel. We are not called to have unity with the world. Jesus, in the garden of Gethsemane, on the night He was betrayed, prayed for His people. He made it very clear as He prayed: ***"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your Word is truth."*** John 17:17.

Unity in Christ

What is the basis of truth? The Word of God. ***"As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth. I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their Word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."*** John 17:18-21

The Great Commission is Our Supreme Ambition

The purpose of our unity is not for some New World Order airy fairy new age agenda. The purpose of Christians' unity is for the advancement of the Gospel, seeking first God's Kingdom, for fulfilling the Great Commission. ***"And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are One: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."*** John 17:22-23

Unity Amongst Regenerate, Faithful Disciples

The Lord makes it clear. He is not praying for unity with the world. He is praying for those who will believe in Him, who will be faithful to His Word, those who have been sanctified by the Word of God, those who are students of the Bible and faithful disciples. Jesus makes clear He is praying for unity amongst the true Church, those who are regenerate, the born-again. It is a disgrace and rebellion to Almighty God to not be united with fellow believers. I have found it easy to be united with Christians of a wide variety because I am in Missions and somehow it is easier for Missionaries to co-operate with Christians from different denominations. It is even more natural for missions to the persecuted Church to co-operate.

Tortured for Christ

As Richard Wurmbrand said: *"When you end up in the same cell and concentration camp, or torture chamber, you recognise an Orthodox priest as a brother in Christ, if he is suffering for Christ."* Yes, Richard Wurmbrand was Lutheran and the other man was Orthodox and there are a lot of doctrinal differences between them. When you are suffering for Christ, everyone else who is suffering with you can be seen as brothers in Christ. Richard Wurmbrand wrote a book, *If that was Christ, Would you give him your Blanket?* He was speaking about an Orthodox minister who was in the same prison cell. Richard Wurmbrand realised he had to give this man his blanket, because that is what he would do if it was Christ... ***"Whatever you did unto one of the least of these My brethren, you did unto Me."***

The War Taught Us to Work Together

We discovered a Bible College in Lubango, Angola, which was Presbyterian, Assemblies of God and Baptist! One Bible College run by Presbyterians, Baptists and Assemblies of God. How is this possible? How do you work together? They were confused and said: *"the war taught us to work together."* Indeed, when you are dealing with communist terrorists, like the Cubans, who were burning churches, murdering pastors and burning Bibles, it is quite clear who the enemy is. Those being targeted by the enemy are our brethren. That is why I have been able to minister amongst Baptists, Lutherans and Orthodox in Eastern Europe and amongst Pentecostals, African Independents, Anglicans, Lutherans, Brethren and vast range of other denominations across Africa. It is natural, because we are in a war. When you are in a war it provides perspective.

Teamwork

In the army we were taught to work as a team. One of the exercises was the *Vasbyt* (bite the bullet). It was an 8,4km race against other platoons and you were given tyres, poles and barrels to transport in this race to the end of the 8,4km. If everyone just decided to run, taking a tyre here and there, that would not be very intelligent. If we work as a team, you take the one side, I take the other and we put as many of the tyres as possible on the poles. Others take poles and we combined our ropes from our backpacks and string the barrels between the poles. Then we run in step. We achieved far more, in far less time, as a team!

Unto the Least of These

We learned the first time we did any of these exercises that it is not the first person across the finish line that wins, it's the last person of the team across that wins. You do not win by being a Rambo/Lone Ranger running by yourself, saying I am going to win! You have to help the weaker ones. So the stronger people help to carry the kit of the others. Some even helped carry their team mates, who had passed out on the way. Only when the last member of your team crosses the finish line has your team completed the course. It was on that result that the decision was made as to who received the pass for the weekend, the trophy, etc. - teaching us to work united, as a team.

Competition to Increase Competence

In the army there was a tremendous competitiveness between every platoon, company, battalion, regiment and unit. A person from B company who tried to cross C company's line, might end up having a metal eating pan beaten over his head. There were fights over all sorts of things because

of the fierce competition between the units in training. It was intense. There was especially competitiveness between units of the Navy, Air Force and Army.

Recognise Your Enemy

However, the moment you were deployed to the border, even the police and Air Force were on the same side - as we were facing a common enemy. One's whole perspective changes. It is healthy to have some competitiveness in training in order to strengthen your skills, to improve your abilities, to increase your speed, to perfect your team work, to see how you can work well together. However, once your training is complete and you are deployed onto the border against a common enemy, now competitiveness would be foolish. You now have to work as a team and it doesn't matter whether they are Marines or Air Force. They are our allies, on the same side, under the same flag. We are fighting the same enemy.

United Against Evil

Christians need to adopt that same constructive attitude. When we understand who the real enemy is: satan and his minions: radical Islam, communism, secular humanism, the New World Order, we will not be wasting our time fighting fellow believers! Certainly not fellow Evangelicals and Reformed believers. There are so many passages in the Scripture that speak on this. **"So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another."** Romans 12:5. **"For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread."** 1 Corinthians 10:17. **"For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ."** 1 Corinthians 12:12.

Unity of Purpose

One does not have this hand competing with the other hand and this foot competing with the other foot. We are working together. You need your feet, hands and fingers to work together. You need your mind and your tongue to be connected and engage brain before putting mouth in gear. We have to be able to co-ordinate every part of the body together, if you need to do anything important in athletics, or anything. So it is in the Church. There is a wide variety of diversity in our churches, but we should all be part of the same Mission and same cause. If we can realise a renewed vision of our Mission and understand where we stand in the battle of beliefs, in the world war of worldviews, in the cultural war that is raging in the battle for the family, the battle for the mind, battle for the heart. We will see that we can work effectively together with other believers.

Without a Vision a People Perish

As we travel, many people are surprised that our Mission works with so many others who are not exactly our kind of belief. Why do we do that? To try to see the big picture. We have a vision of the Great Commission. Reformation. Revival. We want to see the fulfilment of the Great Commission, which is our supreme ambition. Therefore we will work with anyone who is in the fight. Some of the people's knowledge of the Scripture is weak and some of them do not know basic Biblical doctrines on a whole range of issues, but they are there. Whether we talking about the Congo, Nigeria or in Sudan. If we can put Scripture and Bible teaching materials in their hands, if we can inform, inspire and direct them, if we can come alongside them, educate and encourage, help meet some of their needs, help re-orientate them to get back into the fight and to get their focus on God's Kingdom, seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, then we are achieving something.

Be Bold and Brave

Why? A victory for one part of Christ's Church is a victory for all of us. If you think in terms of military war, you do not win battles on your own. It is a team effort. We see this with Jonathan in 1 Samuel. Jonathan and his armour bearer saw the need to do something about the Philistine threat and were bold and brave. Jonathan said: **"let us go up and see if God will give us victory over them."** God can give us victory, whether by many, or by few. His armour bearer said: whatever the

Lord has put in your heart, I am with you, heart and soul. They went up and engaged the enemy and won the victory.

United in Battle

That is why David and Jonathan became the best of friends, as they identified with each other as warriors, fighters, willing to take risks, willing to take on the enemy, even when outnumbered. These two are one of the most magnificent examples of brotherhood, of a friend who can stick even closer than a brother. They were united in God and they were united in battle. There is a unity that comes amongst military people that is unique, which most people cannot understand. In the Army, our slogan was: *"You have never lived until you have almost died and for those who fight for it, life has a flavour the protected will never know."*

Unbreakable

There is a bond between soldiers who have been together in battle that you cannot break. It is the same in the persecuted Church and Missions. When people have been under fire, in the trenches, in persecuted Churches, when you have ministered to people who are risking their lives to worship Christ, or to deliver Bibles, or whatever the mission at that time is, then there is a bond that cannot easily be broken.

Unity in Battle

Most Christians will never know that bond, as most Christians never commit to a fight, not the culture war, not the battle for the family, not the battle for the mind, nor the world war of worldviews. They do not know what it is to engage the forces of darkness. They do not know what it is to be involved in real spiritual warfare. They have never risked anything for God. How can they relate? There are soldiers who my Father and Grandfather fought with, and even against, who they loved. The Afrika Korp and the 8th Army's mutual respect and bond was immense.

A Higher Call

The story of the Luftwaffe Fighter Ace, Franz Stiegler, who let American bomber pilot, Charlie Brown, and his B-17 crew, go because they were so badly damaged, even escorting them to safety out over the flak gunners. They became the best of friends. General Adolf Garland, the head of the Fighter Squadrons in Germany and Douglas Bader, one of the top British Aces, became the best of friends and wrote Forewords for one another's books. Their families spent holidays together. A special bond is formed in some of these situations that most people will never understand. That is why most of the attempts by Christians to achieve unity will fail, as they are based on sloppy, sentimental, fuzzy ideas.

Unity of Vision, Purpose and Sacrifice

Real unity will come to the church when people understand: *"Be Thou my vision..."* When the vision is God and God's glory, then they will be able to love their brethren. When their mission is God's Mission, the Great Commission, when they see themselves as not so much a member of this denomination, or congregation, but of God's Kingdom. Being Kingdom focussed. Battle focused. When they see the needs and are involved in the battles. Only then we will be able to worship with, and rejoice with, Russian Orthodox, Ethiopian Coptics, Egyptian Coptics, Anglicans in Sudan, Pentecostals in Nigeria, Baptists in the Congo, Independents in Zambia. When we are involved in the same Mission. When we are experiencing the same threats. When we are facing the same challenges. Only then will unity come and it will be real Bible-based, Christ-centered unity.

United in Christ

What we have to do is follow the Biblical principles. *"Till we all come to the unity of the Faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."* Ephesians 4:13. The kind of unity the Apostle Paul is talking about is

unity of the Faith, unity of knowledge and unity in Christ with Christ as the perfect example, that we are trying to grow up to His stature.

Fallen Creation

If we try to compare ourselves with fellow Christians there is room for both despair and pride. Our goal is Christ. He is our example. We follow in His footsteps. There are weaknesses and blind spots in every Christian leader, even the best of them. There is bad in the best of us because we have fallen. There is evil in the best because we are fallen creation. But there is good even in the worst, because we are God's creation. Fallen creation gives us the balance.

Reject the False But Seek True Unity in Christ

Unfortunately so many of these Biblical concepts have been hijacked by the New World Order, the liberals, World Council Churches and apostates. They talk about unity so much that many Christians who seek to be faithful to God, have a fear that we have to be anti-unity because we correctly perceive that this false call for unity is something that is wrong. But we are missing the many calls for real Biblical Christian unity in Christ, unity on the Bible. ***"Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."*** Ephesians 4:3

Be of One Mind

"I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord." Philippians 4:2. Paul is calling for two people who are at odds with one another, in a certain congregation, to be of one mind together. ***"...Become complete. Be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you."*** 2 Corinthians 13:11.

Aim Higher

"That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ." Colossians 2:2.

United for Victory in Christ

There is so much that calls us to learn from the Wencommando and the Transvaal motto, *Eendragt Maakt Magt* (In Unity is Strength), learning from the Army how to *Vasbyt*. ***"Now I plead with you, brethren, by the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."*** 1 Corinthians 1:10.

Fake Unity

An example of how we should **not** operate was at the Rustenberg National Conference of Churches in 1990. I was a delegate. At one time Ray McCauley stood up to do a devotion, where everyone from Tutu, Boesak, many of the apostate clergy were there. Rev. McCauley said: *"It is time for us to lay aside doctrine and seek unity with our brothers in the World Council of Churches!"* At tea time I went to Ray McCauley and said: *"Ray, I never knew that you took up doctrine! How could you lay it aside?"* He laughed hysterically and thought I was making a joke. But I was serious!

Onward Christian Soldiers

We need to be united in Christ, as the family of God. United in our Mission of the Great Commission. United in our love for God and for His Creation. United in our purpose, to be salt and light. Working for Reformation, praying for Revival. Seeking first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. United in battle. There is the battle for the mind, the battle for the heart, the battle for the family, the battle for Faith and freedom. United in the battle for Christian civilisation that is under attack.

Recognise the Threats

We are under serious persecution. Never has the Church faced the kinds of threats it is facing right now from insidious anti-Christ, GayGB, pink agenda characters who are seeking to bully, intimidate and pulverize Christians into re-defining the Gospel. We have whole denominations that have run up the white flag and re-defined marriage to include perversion. Many have accepted unrepentant, fornicating, adulterous perverts into their pulpits and call them "*ministers*", him or her! Entire denominations are apostatising right, left and centre. They are willing to ignore vast passages of the Scriptures.

Compromise and Cowardice

Why? They do not want to be called horrible names, like: a *bigot*, or *legalist* or *judgemental*! They would rather: betray God, violate their ordination oath, throw out the church constitution, ignore the Bible, take the scissors to the Bible, tippex out those offensive passages. Whatever is necessary. Shred the Bible if need be. But do not call us horrible names! Wimps, wets and weeds who have no doctrinal back bone. Filleted of spine. Spineless evangellyfish. No Holy Spirit fire. No fervour. No courage - absolute cowards. Churches are apostatising and giving in to the New World Order. Or they are just being quiet saying: *we will just focus on nice happy thoughts of love, unity and peace, etc.* They may not get persecuted, but they have missed the whole purpose of what we are here for! They have spiritual amnesia and they have forgotten the Great Commission of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Be Bold. Be Brave. Be Biblical

The last command of Christ should be our first concern. The main thing is the keep the main thing the main thing. Our priority on earth is to fulfil the Great Commission, to seek first the Kingdom of God, to love God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and to love our neighbour as ourselves. May God find us faithful to His Word and resolute in His service.

"...contend earnestly for the Faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." Jude 3

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