

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: The Danger of Division

PASSAGE: 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

DATE: October 18, 2020

I. The Appeal: Unity Not Uniformity (v.10)

- Two ditches to avoid: divisions and uniformity

“As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions.”
– Romans 14:1

II. The Obstacle: Prideful Quarreling (v.11-12)

Three Differences Between Godly Disagreements and Prideful Quarreling:

1. Prideful quarreling cares more about winning the argument than loving the person.
2. Prideful quarreling leads to division not deeper unity.
3. Prideful quarreling elevates non-essential issues to the level of first importance.

“It is one thing to disagree with another Christian. That is inevitable to anyone who thinks. It is another thing when our disagreement takes an attitude of contempt, condescension, or undue suspicion toward those with whom we disagree.”
– Gavin Ortlund

“The goal of the devil is to stir up disunity.” – Tony Evans

III. The Solution: The Cross of Christ (v.13-17)

Personal Assessment:

1. Am I a delight to disagree with?
2. Am I building unity with others around Jesus or other commonalities?
3. Am I showing more loyalty and allegiance towards a particular “tribe” of thinking and living than towards Jesus?

Benediction

"I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." – Ephesians 4:1-6

Discussion / Reflection

1. How does Jesus create unity (not uniformity) among a diverse group of people?
2. Are there any examples of prideful quarreling in your life that you need repent of?
3. Which of the three personal assessment questions was most convicting and why?