

Church Unity

1. John 10:16: And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be **one flock, one shepherd.**
2. John 17:11,18-23: "Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one." "As thou didst send me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be consecrated in truth." "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, **that they may all be one**; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. The glory which thou hast given me I have given to them, **that they may be one even as we are one**, I in them and thou in me, **that they may become perfectly one**, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me."
 - a. Jesus clearly taught that all Christians and that the entire Christian Church must remain one in belief, doctrine, and dogma and yet this is clearly not the case in this world where there are 30,000 to 40,000 protestant denominations. According to Jesus' words, there can only be one Church, yet most Christians are not obedient to Jesus' one Church, but have decided to lead or follow their own church. This is obvious and clear. Many attempt to improve upon Jesus' words by their very life and actions. They say one thing, but do another. This is a clear contradiction. "Perfectly one" is just that...perfect, in all ways, not just similar and not just one on some beliefs, but all. To be perfectly one is to be in perfect agreement on all words, thoughts, and actions, just as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are in perfect agreement and oneness on all words, thoughts, and actions. You may say that the protestant church's are led by the Holy Spirit, but 30,000 to 40,000 protestant denominations all claim to be led by the Holy Spirit when they continuously contradict each other. Does the Holy Spirit contradict itself? Not just one, but PERFECTLY ONE. Jesus created one church, not 40,000. This one church must teach one consistent set of doctrines and beliefs.
3. 1 Corinthians 1:10-13:
 - a. I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and **that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.** For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?
4. 1 Corinthians 12:13
 - a. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
5. Ephesians 4:3-6
 - a. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over

all and through all and in all. one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

6. Philippians 2:2 “then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.”
7. Romans 12:15 “so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”
8. Romans 15:5-6
 - a. “May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a **spirit of unity among yourselves** as you follow Christ Jesus, so that **with one heart and mouth** you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
9. Romans 16:7-8
 - a. “I urge you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them. For such people are not serving our Lord Christ, but their own appetites. By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naive people.”
10. 1 John 2:19
 - a. **“They went out from us,** but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.”
11. Acts 15:24
 - a. “We have heard that some **went out from us without our authorization** and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said.”
12. Colossians 3:15
 - a. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.
13. Matthew 5:14
 - a. “You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.”
14. Matthew 13:24-30
 - a. Another parable he put before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then has it weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No; lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. **Let both grow together until the harvest;** and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.”
15. Matthew 16:17-19
 - a. Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. **And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church,** and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. ¹⁴ Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

- i. My words-Peter confessed that Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus said that Peter DID NOT discover this upon his own, but God revealed it to Peter before anyone else through the Holy Spirit. Because God revealed this first to Peter before anyone else, this was God's sign that Peter was to be the successor to Christ and the leader of Christ's Church after Jesus' death.
- 16. Matthew 7:24-25
 - a. "Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock.
- 17. 1 Timothy 3:15: if I am delayed, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is **the church of the living God, the pillar and bulwark of the truth.**
 - a. **NIV** if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is **the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.**
- 18. Luke 10:16 "He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."
- 19. John 16:13 When the Spirit of truth comes, **he will guide you into all the truth**
- 20. John 14:16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate **to be with you always,**
- 21. John 14:18 I will not leave you as orphans; **I will come to you.**
- 22. John 14:26
 - a. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.**
- 23. Ephesians 3:9-11 "and to make all men see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; that **through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known** to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose which he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- 24. Ephesians 1:22 "*And he hath subjected all things under his feet, and hath made him head over all the church*" (Ephesians 1:22). This verse refers to Jesus being head of ONE church, not multiple churches such as those started by Lutheran, Calvin and subsequent Protestants.
- 25. Matthew 16:18 And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and **the gates of Hades will not overcome it.**
- 26. Matthew 28:18-20
 - a. Then Jesus came to them and said, "**All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. **And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.**"

- b. Jesus clearly saying that all authority has been given him and that he passed this authority on to the Church. Jesus also clearly saying that through the Holy Spirit, He will always be with the Church and lead the Church until the end of the world when He returns.
27. Luke 22:32 "Luke 22:32 "But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."
28. **St. Irenaeus (200AD)** "For where the Church is, there is the Spirit of God; and where the Spirit of God is, there the Church and every grace is. The Spirit, however, is Truth." (*Against Heresies 3, 24, 1*)
29. **St. Cyprian (c. 250AD)** - "God is one and Christ in one, and one is His Church, and the faith is one, and His people welded together by the glue of concord into a solid unity of body. Unity cannot be rent asunder, nor can the one body of the Church, through the division of its structure, be divided into separate pieces." (*On the Unity of the Church, 23*)
30. **St. Hilary (c. 4th century)** - "In the Scriptures our people are shown to be made one, so that just as many grains collected into one and ground and mingled together, make one loaf, so in Christ, who is the heavenly bread, we know there is one holy, in which our whole company is joined and united" (*Treatise 62, 13*)