



Living Waters Ministries Minister R. Thomas Lambur

MAN'S INDIVIDUALISM – Now Unified Stewards In The Body Of Christ (True Unity) The Principles Of “True Bible Unity” Set Forth

Individuals have a conscience in which God's Holy Spirit resides. The New Testament admonishes believers to fellowship (*koinonia*) in the light around God's Word. Because of the fall, man's intellect has been corrupted. Man is in desperate need of the wisdom of God which has been sent by way of God's written Word. It is impossible to bring about “True Unity” *until the carnal(fleshly) mind has been changed*. God has not left us in this corrupt state without guidance; he has sent us the Spirit of Truth. Even in our born again state, we still have to deal with and renew a corrupt intellect. Thus the ministry of the Word and of the Spirit have been assigned to bring about a change of mind. The truths of God's Word are built line upon line, precept upon precept until we have attained a correct and stable foundation. It is this foundation alone that unity is built upon in the Christian faith. True unity is birthed by the Holy Spirit from the agreement of God's Word (the mind of Christ) doctrinal teachings of the New Testament. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is the mediator of such unity according to our cooperation to discuss (disciple) His Word openly. God's Word interprets itself, therefore it contains God's message before one comes to it. It is not what we get out of the Word, but what God placed in His Word; His message to us that we are to receive.

The Word of God is His means of Grace, light, truth, and salvation to us, therefore, because of the entrance of that Word people receive light and truth. Christians are made stewards of these truths, and are called to witness in their conscience by discernment.

Whenever something is not in agreement with the Word of God, it is the responsibility of the “individual” to respond. When the response is disagreement, two individuals have the responsibility of setting aside all their preconceived beliefs that do not match up and are not in agreement with the written Word of God. We are not called to a pseudo or synthetic unity but one that is built on the solidness of God's foundational truth. The example of the Reformation shows the humility of the individual in finding truth and submitting themselves to the current institution for checks and balances. It is not attitude that drives one in their quest for truth, but the light of finding truth by God's Word and their hopes to be unified with others who have found the same in which to bond in service. Submitting one to another is the recommendation and discussion of God's Word in which the Holy Spirit can work to His unity. This is what God has in mind according to the scriptures. Such development may be painstaking at first but there is no substitute for true God given “Biblical Unity” in the church of Christ.

Individual stewardship is exhorted in the New Testament *not blind submission or participation*. Therefore we are exhorted to judge every person's actions spiritual *according to the written Word*, especially the leadership and ministries in general.

The proper respect of authority of the New Testament is not meant to squelch out discernment toward agreement, but to bring about “True Biblical Unity” *by Word and Doctrine*. Because of this, we see a “New Accountability” and “Openness” and “Bonding” in the congregation of saints. “No more Lording over the flock of God!” “No more socialist “Psycho-Manipulative” control methods.” “No more “Will to Power” activities by cultic intimidations.” Now the freedom of the conscience can *again reign* and people can think things through for themselves, *following the Biblical instruction of reason and weighing this out Biblically*. We are called to be good *Bereans* – spiritually noble in checking before agreement, and afterwards bonding in the strength of Bible truth. Now Biblical Discipleship which is defined from a standpoint of personal devotion toward God can take the lead as people can travel together in agreement on *the same road, in the same heart and mind*. Instead of making the individual as

clones, we discover the uniqueness of our person alongside one another. Leadership that demands authority by the teaching of inherent personal authority has been *overthrown* by “The Principles Of Christ.” NO MORE GURUISM! A new respect for leadership that submits as an under-shepherd has now come. This new respect has been *birthed* out of this open form of checks and balances and “The Headship Of Jesus Christ” in the church is the congregation’s new *axiom* by the Word of God!.

It is not hard to get people to participate in giving when they are *flowing together* with the same New Testament vision. Individualism in its individual visions have now become *the composite oneness* of the Body of Christ in doing God’s will on earth.

Each individual has their *own conscience* with which to “Selectively Unify” with the N.T. Body of believers which are “Called Out” unto the Lord. God respects and created that *individualism*, but now in Christ as Christians we are made “One New Man” *to do His will on earth*. This is what our goal is when dealing with the Body, to harmonize “By God’s Word” making a “Composite Unity” (making one new functioning man) out of our gifts and callings, and to establish, and increase in the Body of Christ on earth by speaking the truth in love. We are lively stones built into one temple *called to be* “**The Habitation Of God!**”