Lorenzo
10-14-84
9-17-89
2-27-94
10-15-00
12-5-04
5-8-11
3-1-15

Christian Fellowship

I John 1:6-7 Pg 1296

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

I.) Introduction

A.) The importance of Christian fellowship is emphasized in John 17:20-23 pg ~~12~~ 1144

JESUS TALKING TO GOD. →

1.) Conversion of the world depends upon Christian fellowship. HOW THE WORLD SEES US, WILL REFLECT UPON THE WAY IT LOOKS AT THE CHURCH.

B.) The failure to maintain it depends upon: ← FELLOWSHIP

1.) the ignorance of what it is.

and 2.) ignorance of its importance which is shown by so many divisions in the world.

II.) Discussion

A.) What is fellowship? I JN 1:1-3 PG 1296

PUT SOMETHING IN, BEFORE YOU CAN GET SOMETHING OUT. →

1.) Partnership; joint participation. EPH 4:16 PG 1243

2.) all organizations have a fellowship.

B.) What is Christian fellowship?

1.) The fellowship of Christians.

I COR 11:33 → TARRY ONE FOR ANOTHER. SINGING AND VISITING.

2.) Christian fellowship versus church fellowship.

a.) They are different in the religious world.

but b.) they are the same in the New Testament because all New Testament Christians were church members.

3.) It is restricted to members of the "one body".

EPH 4:4-6 pg 1242

a.) There is one body, of which Christ is the Head. ~~COL~~ 3 EPH 1:22-23 pg 1240

b.) all Christians are members of the body; hence, there are no Christians outside the

I COR 1:10 NOW I BESEECH YOU, BRETHREN, BY THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THAT YE ALL SPEAK THE SAME THING, AND THAT THERE BE NO DIVISIONS AMOUNG YOU; BUT THAT YE BE PERFECTLY JOINED TOGETHER IN THE SAME MIND AND IN THE SAME JUDGEMENT.

body; therefore, there is no Christian fellowship outside the body.

C.) What is the test of Christian fellowship?

1.) What is the test for fraternal organizations?

I COR 1:10 → 2.) Being a Christian is the test.

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3.) How does one become a Christian?

a.) a certain process is required in the New Testament.

1.) Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

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a.) No other way is acceptable.

~~4.) all Christians have fellowship one with another.~~

D.) How is Christian fellowship maintained?

HEB 3:12-13 → 1.) By continuing to be a Christian.

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2.) By walking in the light.

EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER

a.) what does this mean?

1.) I John 1:7 opening verses.

E) How does Christian fellowship express itself?

1.) Business partnership.

a.) Unity of purpose; agreement; harmony.

b.) The partners must share equally in the work, expenses, responsibility, and profit.

c.) Cooperation. Work for the good of all.

2.) Church partnerships.

a.) In the church we must work in unity, harmony and be in agreement.

1.) Ps 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

b.) We must share equally in

1.) Work - each should do his part.

a) Gal 6:4-5 But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. For every man shall bear his own burden.

BEAR YOUR OWN BURDEN - DON'T MAKE SOMEONE CARRY IT FOR YOU.

2.) Expense

a.) II Cor 8:12-14 pg 1228

1.) help one another.

DIFFERENT GIFTS - SHARE THEM AND IT EQUALS OUT.

b.) II Cor 9:5-7 giving

pg 1229

III) Conclusion

A.) Fellowship of His sufferings

1.) Rom 8:16-17 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

UP'S AND DOWN'S IN BUSNESS - UP'S AND DOWN IN CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIPS.

WORK TOGETHER TO EVEN THINGS OUT.