



Unity in the Church

By Andy Snoke

The apostle Paul expresses his desire for unity in the church in Corinth by way of the following verses.

“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. For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe’s household, that there are contentions among you. Now I say this, that each of you says, “I am of Paul,” or “I am of Apollos,” or “I am of Cephas,” or “I am of Christ.” Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” 1 Cor. 1:10-13.

We often quickly quote this scripture, but if we take the time to closely examine the exhortation from Paul, we will see some significant truths.

Paul itemizes the lack of unity, by placing the erring Corinthians into 4 categories:

1. I am of Paul.
2. I am of Apollos.
3. I am of Cephas.
4. I am of Christ.

I do not believe that Paul simply picked four names at random for this example, but there are profound truths in each category. Some 2,000 years after Paul penned these words, we find many Christians falling out of unity with one another by innocently slipping into one of these categories.

Let us examine these categories to assure that we do not fall into any of the same traps.

I am of Paul.

The first categories of believers were those that had said that they “followed” Paul. This may be very complimentary to a person to have people “follow you” but Paul did not want people following him without a safeguard. Paul’s concern was over people that would blindly follow him. He balanced this by saying, “Follow me as I follow Christ” 1 Cor 11:1.

Throughout time, men have been led astray by following personalities, who did not always “follow Christ.”

Paul gives further warning by saying in Gal 1:8, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be

accused.” Paul wanted the saints to know that it was essential to follow the teachings of the Apostles, not simply the individual as a personality.

I am of Apollos.

The second category was of those that claimed to follow Apollos. Apollos represents the very polished flamboyant style of preaching. This group of believers was captivated by and followed the “presentation” more than the actual teachings.

“Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord,

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though he knew only the baptism of John” Acts 18:24-25.

Though at this time, his message was incomplete, Apollos possessed a gifted presentation with a Holy Ghost persuasion!

A devoted married couple, whose name is never mentioned singly, but always together, pulled Apollos aside and helped him fully understand the gospel. Thankfully, Apollos listened to his fellow servants in the body of Christ and his ministry grew even more.

Acts 18: 26-28: “So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.”

Some feel that Apollos preaching style was much influenced by, the well known, at that time, Philo of Alexandria, who used an allegorical style fused with Greek Philosophy and Judaism. What ever his style and presentation was, it was very effective.

I can just imagine the Corinthians spellbound by each word that beautifully rolled from the lips of Apollos. He may have used exaggerated gestures as he spoke. He probably was able to read the “pulse” of the crowd and raise and lower his voice as artistically as a violinist works his instrument, to provide the right dramatic effect. He was good at speaking!

I believe that Paul’s concern was that some of the Corinthians had become captivated by the style, not the substance. They were mesmerized by the “presentation”,

not the “Person” of Jesus Christ.

Apollos never intended for this to happen, for he was a true and faithful follower of Christ. Apollos was not one that would ever promote his own individual ministry, but would always be attached, and submissive to the “order” that God was already establishing at that time. Apollos was not one that would promote his name, his books, his service times, or anything that drew attention to him.

In fact Martin Luther and other modern scholars believe that Apollos may have written the unsigned book of Hebrews. This of course can never be proved. But it would be fitting for a humble, spiritual, and intellectual person such as Apollos to write a book such as Hebrews, and not sign it for fear of men following the “man” in place of the “message.”

The writer St. Jerome states that Apollos was so dissatisfied with the division at Corinth, that he retired to Crete with Zenas, a doctor of the law; and that the schism having been healed by Paul’s letter to the Corinthians, Apollos returned to the city, and continued in ministry.

The important truth of this category is that we must be careful not to be captivated simply by the style or presentation, but by the living Word. It has been said, that it does not matter how high you jump when you preach, as long as you are walking straight when you land!

I am of Cephas (Peter).

This category belongs to the traditionalist. In other words, this group of saints tended to follow only Peter because Peter was one of the “originals”.

Peter, was an apostle of Christ, called and appointed from the very beginning. Yes, he was there at the beginning! What better authority can there be than a “Peter” who was there from the very start? He sat at

the feet of Jesus!

And yet Paul is scolding the Corinthians for falling into this category. We must be careful that we don’t fall into the deception of only following the “originals”. All across time, God calls some at the beginning, some in the middle and some at the very end!

In this move of the Spirit that we enjoy so much, time has claimed many “originals” since that February morning that prophesy broke out in a crowded classroom in 1948 at the bible school, North Battleford, Canada. There are many modern day “Peters” if you will that God used mightily to lay a foundation who have now received their heavenly reward.

But nevertheless, God is still moving mightily by His Spirit, calling some at the beginning, some in the middle and some towards the end! I am glad He waited for you and me!

I am of Christ.

This category, though it has the noblest sounding name, can be the most dangerous spiritually.

This category represents a group of people who are not accountable to any type of spiritual headship for they “follow Christ.” These are “loners,” “individuals,” lost to their own interpretation and understanding of truth. These are those who have shunned all accountability to the body of Christ, and claim to answer “only to Christ.” They (in their minds) hear only from God.

Entire false religions are a result of men hearing “only from God.” Approximately one billion people today follow a religion of a “prophet” who heard only from God through “revelations” at the time of his seizures. His “revelations” would change according to what the so-called prophet wanted in his life. Sex with children as young as

8 became a practice as long as the child was one of a man's multiple wives. Women were reduced to speechless servants, who could be murdered by family members at a whim and considered an "honor" killing.

History reminds us of the more than 900 souls that committed suicide in the rainforest of Guyana in 1978, under the spell of another prophet, Jim Jones, who heard "only from God."

In 1993, David Koresh a self-proclaimed prophet who heard "only from God" set fire to the "Branch Davidians" compound in Waco Texas and killed 54 adults and 21 children. He was accountable to no one, for he heard "only from God."

These examples that I have given are admittedly extreme cases, but we can all err in this category for the most innocent reasons.

A man or a woman, on his/her own with no spiritual headship, can often be deceived spiritually. God has created us with an inherent need to have a spiritual head, to need the gifts and ministries of one another.

Apollos could have missed the way, if he had not accepted balance and correction from Priscilla and Aquilla. Peter could have missed the way if he had not accepted balance and correction from Paul.

"Now when Peter had come to Antioch, I (Paul) withstood him to his face, because he was to be blamed; for before certain men came from James, he would eat with the Gentiles; but when they came, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing those who were of the circumcision. And the rest of the Jews also played the hypocrite with him, so that even Barnabas was carried away with their hypocrisy.

But when I saw that they were not straightforward about the truth

of the gospel, I said to Peter before them all, 'If you, being a Jew, live in the manner of Gentiles and not as the Jews, why do you compel Gentiles to live as Jews? We who are Jews by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified'" Gal. 2: 11-16.

In this passage of scripture, Peter is NOT preaching heresy, but he has strayed by not consistently practicing the gospel of Grace. The apostle Paul steps into the picture, and balances and corrects Peter for this gradual and occasional straying from the truth. This is how balance, and submission to a spiritual headship is suppose to work.

Now, what was Peter's attitude towards Paul after this correction? We find a "clue" to Peter's attitude in 2 Peter 3:15: "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as OUR BELOVED BROTHER PAUL also according to the wisdom GIVEN UNTO HIM (Paul) hath written unto you."

In other words, it is evident that Peter allowed his brother Paul, recognizing a spiritual headship in his ministry, to balance Peter. Paul loved and balanced Peter. Peter loved and balanced Paul.

Acts 15, the entire chapter, is an example of men being so convinced of a "truth" that they may have thought that they could even say, "the Lord told me!" This chapter is an example that, as an individual, we can be absolutely convinced of something and at the same time be absolutely wrong. I am not too proud to admit in this article, that it has happened to me!! And more than once!!

"Except you be circumcised after

the manner of Moses you can not be saved," said many at the gathering (Acts 15: 1). This seemed to make a lot of sense to the believing Jews at the time of Acts 15. But after much contention the matter was brought to the Apostles. The Apostles listened to one another, prayed, argued, discussed, and gave testimonies of what they had seen the Lord do in that present hour.

After much prayerful deliberation among the apostles and elders, Peter speaks with a word of wisdom and states that they "trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God" Acts 15: 19.

They then determine that letters are to be carried by the Apostles, representing the spiritual headship over the church, to be sent to the local assemblies to establish the truth. You may not realize it, but you and I who are mostly "Gentiles" are direct benefactors of the truth that Acts 15 speaks of. And I appreciate the scripture that ties this entire conference with one another together, where it says:

"For it seemed good TO THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND TO US, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things" Acts 15: 28.

God has placed in the Church a spiritual "headship" for the safety of the church. This is not my idea, it is not my plan, but it is God's order and mind. To walk outside of the safety of this covering, can be quite dangerous in many ways.

The scriptures clearly teach in Eph 4: 11-16, "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, (*we often call this the 5 fold ministry*) for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry (*through the laying on of hands of the presbytery for the impartation of gifts*), for the edifying of the body of Christ, 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; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men,

in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective

working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

Let us follow Christ, with a welcomed spiritual headship, in loving submission to one another.

The Latter Days

By Mervin Sundbo

There was a period of history referred to by historians as the “dark ages.” It was a time of religious conflict – Catholics vs. Protestants and Christianity vs. Islam. It seemed there was a void of good literature and there was very little by way of cultural achievements. The rule of law had broken down and barbarous practices prevailed.

Many of the thinkers and writers of that day viewed religion as possessing its own form of darkness, lacking rationality and reason and therefore they desired to push society in the direction of enlightenment, which was really ushering in the age of science and reason, or the age of intellectualism.

One writer has this to say about our modern day as compared to the dark ages, “The irony of this (i.e. the dark ages) is that our 21st century world is no less dark. It is an individual darkness, which multiplies and grows as those who reject God walk together and dominate politics, education and society. Our age is characterized by every intellectual and technological advance, but our morals have turned backwards. Then he goes on to quote 2 Tim. 3: 1-5. “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without

natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent (lacking self-restraint), fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away” (KJV). He concludes with, “These are the characteristics of true darkness.”

2 Tim. 3: 7 speaks of “Ever learning, and never able to come to a knowledge of the truth” (KJV). This is the whole story of secular, degenerate man. He places his faith in his intellect and academic knowledge and is “always learning and yet never able to grasp the truth” (Phillips). Truth and wisdom elude him because they are not products of the natural mind, but rather they are born of the Spirit. They are God given attributes. Jesus was truth and wisdom personified. In James 1: 5 we read, “If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him” (NKJV).

In Ecclesiastes 12: 11-14, Solomon expressed these words of wisdom, “The words of the wise are like goads (to prod us), their collected sayings like firmly imbedded nails (to anchor us) – given by one Shepherd (God-given). Be warned, my son, of anything in addition to

them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wearies the body. Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil” (NIV). Has there ever been a time when more opinions have been expressed, when more books have been written, when everyone is doing what seems to be right in his own eyes, when education has had a higher priority, when there have been more religious sects or when the governments of man have failed to deliver just and fair administrations? I submit to you that we will see the increasing failure of man’s efforts to solve the unsolvable with the natural mind. His philosophies and ideas will never meet the challenges faced by mankind because only theocratic government will bring justice and righteousness to a world in desperate need of the rule of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Men’s hearts will more and more be “failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken” (Luke 21: 26, NKJV).

Is. 60:2 says, “For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but

the Lord shall arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you” (NKJV). Note that in Ex. 10: 22 & 23, there was thick darkness in Egypt. The scriptures describe it as darkness that could be felt. However, the children of Israel had light in their dwellings. “Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt.’ So Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven, and there was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. They did not see one another; nor did anyone rise from his place for three days. But all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings” (NKJV). This should be typical of God’s people that wherever they dwell, they should dispel darkness. For the scripture says in 1 Peter 2:9, “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (NKJV).

I am sure we all wonder and are even troubled by what is transpiring before our eyes in the world today. Yet the downward spiral of society should not surprise us or take us unaware because the scriptures portray what the times will be like in the last days. Matthew chapter 24 and 2 Timothy chapter 3 paint a rather bleak picture of what is coming upon the earth and I am sure has even now begun. Notice Matt. 24: 1-5, “Then Jesus went out and departed from the temple, and His disciples came up to show Him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, ‘Do you not see all these things? Assuredly, I say unto you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down.’ Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples

came to Him privately saying, ‘Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?’ And Jesus answered and said unto them: ‘Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and will deceive many” (NKJV). Deception is close to the real and that which is false can be close to the truth. Deception is taking as true that which is false. Counterfeit money is close to real money in appearance. In fact, only a trained eye (one who knows what to look for) would detect a counterfeit bill. I believe they even have scanners now that will reveal the authenticity, especially of the higher denominations. Jesus said in Matt. 24:24, “For false christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the very elect” (NKJV). Miracles in themselves do not prove that something is of God. For example, when the sorcerers of Pharaoh’s court witnessed the miracle of Aaron’s rod becoming a serpent, they cast down their rods and they became serpents. However, “Aaron’s rod swallowed up the rods of the sorcerers” (Ex. 7: 10-12). Deception is at work here, but the power of evil, working through the magicians, is overcome by the power of God working through Moses and Aaron.

Paul, in 2 Cor. 11: 13-15, speaks of false apostles in this way, “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works” (NKJV). We are not talking about the roaring lion here who walks about seeking whom he

may devour (1 Peter 5:8), but rather something much more subtle and devious. The “angel of light” and the “ministers of righteousness” are discernable only by the Spirit. The natural mind will take the deception for the real, but the Spirit of God is not fooled. The Spirit discerns both good and evil and therefore exposes the counterfeit for what it really is. Praise God for the gift of discernment operating in the church.

Let us look at Matt. 24:37 & 38, which is another indication of what conditions will be like in the last days. “But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be” (NKJV). In the days of Noah, there was carousing, unpreparedness and indifference – absolutely no harkening to the disaster (judgment) that was about to fall on them. Now when we look at the conditions as described in Gen. 6: 11 & 12, we see a picture not unlike the conditions that we witness today. “The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said unto Noah, ‘The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with (from) the earth” (NKJV). The cup of iniquity was full and God brought judgment on the earth. However, He instructed Noah to build an ark, which would provide a way of escape for Noah and his family. The waters of judgment that destroyed all life outside the ark were the same waters that provided buoyancy and safety for

those inside the ark. The waters of judgment could not penetrate the ark for it was pitched inside and outside. This was no sloppily thrown together craft. There were specific instructions and Noah did according to all that God had commanded him to do. The ark was their salvation; their place of safety. Where is our safety today as the judgments of God descend upon the earth? I submit to you that our ark is Christ. Just as the pitch inside and outside prevented the water from entering the ark, so the blood of Christ keeps God's people safe from destructive judgments. You will recall that the children of Israel were instructed to take the blood of the Passover lamb and sprinkle it on the lintels and side posts of their dwellings and they were to stay in the house all night. Where was their safety? It was in doing as God had instructed. When the Lord passed through the land of Egypt, He would see the blood and all who were in the house would be safe, but where the blood was not sprinkled, the first born of every house would die. Our place is in the house (the church, the body of Christ) and the blood of Christ (our salvation) will be our protection. Praise God! God looks after His people, as we see time and time again, down through biblical history.

Another example that comes to mind is the evacuation of Lot and his family at the time of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen. 19: 24 & 25). In Genesis chapter 18, we witness the longsuffering of God when Abraham interceded on behalf of Lot and his family. He asks the Lord to save the city if 50 righteous could be found in it and the Lord said He would spare the city for the sake of 50 righteous people. However, we know that Abraham kept moving that number lower and lower until he asked the Lord to save

the city for the sake of 10 righteous and the Lord said he would spare the city if 10 righteous could be found (Gen. 18: 23 – 33). Obviously, the corruption in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah was so great that not even 10 righteous could be found. The cup of iniquity was full and the Lord brought judgment upon these wicked cities. When we look at the world today, with all of its corruption, degradation and violence we cannot help but think that the cup of iniquity is quickly filling to the point where once again God will pass judgment on the wickedness in the earth. "... for when thy judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness (Isaiah 26: 9). Judgment is good because it causes men and women to turn from their wicked ways, to seek God and to learn the ways of righteousness. We must always remember that "judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God? (1 Peter 4: 17)

There are many scriptures that give us hope and build faith even in times of distress and uncertainty. Let us look at a few in Isaiah:

Isaiah 54:17, "'No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me,' says the Lord" (NKJV).

Isaiah 40: 28 – 31, "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who

wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint" (NKJV).

Isaiah 51: 6, "... but my salvation shall be forever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished" (NKJV).

Isaiah 43: 2 & 3, "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, nor shall the flame scorch you, for I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior..." (NKJV).

We may find it distressing as we witness the nations of the earth spouting their political dogmas, flexing their military muscles, engaging in inhumane practices and demonstrating a callous disregard for godly principles. However, let us have a brief look at God's view of the nations and how they will one day yield to His authority.

Isaiah 40: 15 & 17, "Behold, the nations are as a drop in the bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing. **All nations** before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless (vanity)" (NKJV).

Isaiah 40: 22 & 23, "It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless (as vanity)" (NKJV).

Isaiah 52: 10, "The Lord has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of **all the nations**; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of the Lord" (NKJV).

Isaiah 2: 2, "Now it shall come

to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and **all nations** shall flow into it" (NKJV).

Isaiah 66: 18 & 23, "For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that I will gather **all nations and tongues**; and they shall come and see My glory. And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, **all flesh** shall come to worship before Me," says the Lord" (NKJV).

Isaiah 61: 11, "For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before **all the nations**" (NKJV).

Daniel 7: 14, "Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a

kingdom, that **all peoples, nations, and languages** should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed" (NKJV).

Psalm 22: 27 & 28, "All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and **all the families of the nations** shall worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord's and He rules over the nations" (NKJV).

Psalm 24: 1, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness, the world and those who dwell therein" (NKJV).

Psalm 86: 9, "**All nations** whom you have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name" (NKJV).

Revelation 15: 4, "Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. For **all nations** shall come and worship

before You, for Your judgments have been manifested" (NKJV).

What a God we serve! He is in control of His creation and is restoring all things back to Himself. We need not fear and we need not doubt. While deep darkness covers the earth, there is the dawning of the New Day on the horizon. Bro. Frank Paterson penned these lines in the chorus of the song; "The Age Is Ending,"

*There's a new day dawning,
There's a new day dawning,
There's a new day dawning in my heart.
A day of glory, a day of gladness,
There's a new day dawning in my heart."*

What a glorious day of deliverance there is for God's people as we enter in to the New Day that is even now breaking forth in all of its glory and in all of its splendor. Praise God! He has brought us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Reflections

I have on a number of occasions noticed how the mountains are reflected by a quiet body of water at their base. How, if the water is calm enough, it is hard to distinguish which is the real and which is the image, other than that they are reversed. I have taken pictures like this and viewing the slide, could hardly distinguish the right way up. In the hall where we worship there is a picture on the wall that bears this out. Almost but not quite, because there are some ripples in the water which distorts the reflection. If one were to cover the top half, one could not distinguish very clearly what image was on the bottom. I have at other times seen a quiet mirror lake whipped by the frenzy of the wind so that no reflection occurs at all.

In the ministry of Jesus upon this

earth, He presented to each person a reflective surface. In His life, His teaching and acts, one could see and behold themselves. A young man looked steadfast into the mirror of Jesus and saw his inability to part with his wealth. He saw himself and went away sorrowful because he knew what he saw was the truth.

The Scribes and Pharisees became angry when they beheld their image in the mirror of His words. He ministered to each one and they beheld themselves as a reflection of Him. He also mirrored their needs, they saw a reflection of healing and they beheld and believed that He was able to heal and impart life. We also look into His face and see ourselves, our need, our sin is mirrored there.

We also as disciples of the Lord should reflect His image to the

world. We reflect His resurrection life to those who are in death. The scripture says that we are the epistles know and read of all men, that as He was in the world so are we. We are ambassadors of Christ and He has

CALLED HOME

Hedvig Coxon
August 25, 2010
Edmonton, Alberta

Ivy Riley
September 11, 2010
St. Michael, Barbados

Thelma Levson
September 27, 2010
Calgary, Alberta

Evelyn Christensen
October 19, 2010
Prince George, B.C.

passed to us the ministry of reconciliation. The world of fallen man sees Christ in us reflected. It is up to us how clear the reflection is. The sad thing is that often the surface of living water within us, that is the reflected surface, is clouded. We do not present an image unmarred because the winds of this worlds systems have rippled and caused waves upon its surface. Let us realize that the one who calmed the waves on the sea of Galilee lives within us. He can say 'peace be still' to the waves on the sea of our reflecting surface, now, as in the days of yore. By our communion and fellowship with Him, the reflection sharpens and Jesus is seen in a greater way. One thing that should be uppermost in our mind; can Jesus be seen in me, in my words as well as my deeds? For if I glorify the Lord only in word, the reflection is

not as clear as when He is revealed in word and deed.

In the natural, the image never becomes the real article, but in the Spirit, we are promised this; We shall know as we are known, when He shall appear we shall be like Him. In the epistle to the Hebrews, it shows how the types and shadows of the covenant of law were fulfilled in Christ. In the age to come, the ministry of Christ will be fulfilled in His Body.

1 Corinthians 13 "For we know in part and we prophesy in part, when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away with".

There will be no more part but the whole, no more image, but the real.

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BOOKS AVAILABLE:
MESSAGES TO THE CHURCH
- *The writings of Herrick Holt*
BORN FROM ABOVE
- *The writings of W. Douglas Whitter*
BUILDING GOD'S HOUSE
- *The writings of Allen M. Hinchliff*

IMPORTANT DATES
North Battleford Young People's Camp November 11 - 14, 2010
Indiana Young People's Camp December 27 - 31, 2010
North Carolina Winter Camp February 18-20, 2011
Fort Collins Meetings February 18-20, 2011
Feast April 21-24, 2011

PAMPLETS AVAILABLE

- The Present Move Of God
 - The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit
 - You Are Loved
- Growing In Christ
- Born From Above
- Honor The Lord

With Thy Substance

- A Word To The Wise
- Sexual Intimacy
- A Testimony - M. Sundbo

Indiana Young People's Meeting
December 2010
Monday evening, December 27 thru Friday noon, December 31, 2010
Mt. St. Francis Retreat Center,
Mt. St. Francis, Indiana, 47146
Phone (812) 923-8817.
Location just 10 miles from downtown Louisville, KY. All under one roof, gym, recreation rooms, 400 acres of woods and hills to hike on.
Directions in September/October issue.
BRING: Bibles, notebooks, pens, pencils and personals.
CONTACT: Bob Wood, 7 N 933 Pharlapp Dr., St. Charles, IL 60175
PHONE: 630-513-6642 or email sandrakwood@aol.com
COST: Adults \$65, Teens \$54 (11-17) Children \$32 (2-10)

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:
Sharon Children's Homes and Schools
Box 878, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada, S9A 2Z3

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