

WHAT'S AT THE

TOP

FLOWS

DOWN

PSALM 133

## II Corinthians 6:14-16a

*<sup>14</sup> ... For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?*

*<sup>15</sup> What accord has Christ with Belial?*

*Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup> What agreement has the temple of God with idols?*

# Ephesians 2:11-22

- <sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—*
- <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*
- <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ...*

# Ephesians 2:11-22

*...<sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup> by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup> And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who ...*

# Ephesians 2:11-22

*... were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup> in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> In him you also ...*

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# John 17:20-21

*I do not ask for these only,  
but also for those who will believe in me  
through their word, that they may all be one, just as you,  
Father, are in me, and I in you,  
that they also may be in us, so that the  
world may believe that you have sent me.”*

# Psalm 133 Background Notes

- Psalms 133-134 - the shortest of the chapters in the Psalms of Ascent
- Author: David
- Occasion: unknown (II Samuel 5 or I Chronicles 11?)
- Theme: unity in God's family

“Nowhere has the nature of true unity—that unity which binds men together, not by artificial restraints, but as brethren of one heart—been more faithfully described, nowhere has it been so gracefully illustrated, as in this short ode.”

**J.J. Perowne,**  
***Commentary on the Psalms***

KEY POINT:

True unity blesses everyone.

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# Psalm 133 Outline

- I. A Proclamation of Blessing for Unity (vs. 1)

# “Unity” Defined

- Webster’s – “the quality or state of not being multiple; a condition of harmony; continuity without deviation or change; the quality or state of being made one”
- Hebrew *ichad* – “togetherness, being made one, being joined together”

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# Psalm 133 Outline

- I. A Proclamation of Blessing for Unity (vs. 1)
  
- II. The Depiction of Unity (vs. 2-3)
  - A. Oil on Aaron's Head (vs. 2)

“This seems to suggest that a parallel blessing is unity,  
when head and body are of one mind.

The blessing of unity seems to drip down from the leading spirits  
in the nation to the members of less importance in the official and  
the social scale. The blessing drops down on all and infuses itself  
into them.”

**H.C. Leupold,**  
***Exposition of Psalms***

# Psalm 133 Outline

- I. A Proclamation of Blessing for Unity (vs. 1)
  
- II. The Depiction of Unity (vs. 2-3)
  - A. Oil on Aaron's Head (vs. 2)
  - B. Dew on Mt. Hermon (vs. 3)



# Mt. Hermon



“This is not instruction in meteorology but a poetic figure. Just as heavy dews refresh and invigorate plant life, so the blessing of unity descends alike on all those who are within the church, and all godly virtues thrive and flourish.

Discord disrupts, destroys,  
and kills all the finer things that could  
grow under the blessing of true unity.”

**H.C. Leupold, *Exposition of Psalms***

KEY POINT:

True unity blesses everyone.

## Acts 2:42-46

*42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

*43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.*

*44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common...*

# Acts 2:42-46

...<sup>45</sup> *And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.*

<sup>46</sup> *And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,*

# Two Observations from Acts 2:42-46

1. Same doctrine brought them together.

“True unity is rooted in truth. Jesus prayed: ‘Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth...For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves may also be sanctified in truth. I do not ask in behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one’ (John18:17-21). The unity for which He prayed is preceded by and grows out of sanctification in the truth.

Fellowship that ignores or glosses over the crucial doctrines of the faith is not Christian unity; it is ungodly compromise.”

**John MacArthur, *Reckless Faith***

# Two Observations from Acts 2:42-46

1. Same doctrine brought them together.
2. Food brought them together.

# Ephesians 4:3-6

<sup>3</sup> *eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

<sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

# Ephesians 4:11-16

*<sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes...*

# Ephesians 4:11-16

*...<sup>15</sup> Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,<sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.*

KEY POINT:

True unity blesses everyone.