

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –  
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE  
PROGRAM 33 (#912213)  
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –  
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

**TITLE: Program 33 – Preserve The Unity Of The Spirit In The Bond Of Peace**

**WEDNESDAY**

**OPEN**

What do you think it does, Beloved, to the heart of Jesus, to the heart of God when He looks at the body of Jesus Christ and sees us fighting against one another, sees us picking at one another, sees us tearing one another down? What do you think it does to His heart? Do you realize that Jesus prayed to the Father that we would be perfected in unity? O, Beloved, what does that mean? We’re going to look at it today, as we look at God’s Precepts For Life.

**PART ONE**

When you study the gospels, which give us insight into the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, we find out that He was praying all the time. He would withdraw and get alone, away from the crowds and talk to the Father. We

know that He spent the night in prayer before He made the decision in choosing His apostles. But very seldom are the prayers that Jesus prayed recorded for us. And yet when you go to John chapter 17, you find in John 17 Jesus’ final prayer, really, on your behalf and on my behalf. And as we look at Ephesians chapter 4, as we look at how we’re to walk the walk that we talk, as we look at how we are to [“walk in a manner worthy of the high calling in Christ Jesus”] (PARAPHRASE Ephesians 4:1), in Ephesians 4 He tells us that we are to be diligent to preserve the unity of the faith. Now, when you take that and you compare it with John chapter 17 you can see that to do this would be to answer the prayer that Jesus prayed for you and for me. Now, I want you to know as we look at John chapter 17, and we’re only going to look at one verse because we’re studying the book of Ephesians, but as we look at this I want you to know, Precious Precious One, that this is what God prayed for you, what God the Son prayed on your behalf. He said, [“I’m not asking just for these, the 12 apostles...,”] or the 11 at that point, that were accompanying Him and that had left the upper room as He made His way to the Garden of Gethsemane where he would be arrested, but He was saying, [“I pray for those that will believe on Me through them, through their word.”] (PARAPHRASE John 17:20) And so He was praying for you. So, I want you to know, I mean I would love to cup your face in my hands and say, “Listen, Beloved, listen carefully,” because this is what Jesus prayed for you. And you could do the same to me. You could cup and I would love it. You could cup my face in your hands and say, “Listen, Kay, listen carefully,” and I would need to listen carefully because I’ve been convicted by this study as I told you in our last program. But, you would say, “Now listen carefully, Kay, because this is what Jesus prayed for you.” Well this is what He says in verse 20, **“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; even 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 sent**

**Me.” (John 17:20-21)** In other words there is this abiding. There is this dwelling. There is this oneness. Now this is what we saw in Ephesians that we are part of the body of Jesus Christ, that we are part of His flesh. You see it in Ephesians 1. You see it at the end of Ephesians 2. You see it in Ephesians chapter 3. We are one. We are members one of another. We have one Head and that Head is Jesus Christ. So he’s saying, “I pray that there will be this oneness within the body of Jesus Christ...,” why? “...That the world might know, that the world might believe that you, God, sent me, your son, to this earth.” Then He goes on to pray, but this is what He says in verse 23, **“I in them...,”** Jesus in us and this is what the church is all about, **“...and You in Me...,”** God in Jesus, He says, **“...that they...,”** that this body of Christ, **“...that they may be perfected in unity...,”** why? **“...so that the world may know that You sent Me....” (17:23a)** Now what does He want us to do? And this is so important and I want you to understand it. He wants us to be perfected in unity and perfected is the word “teleios”. He wants us to be mature. He wants us to grow and we’re gonna see this later in Ephesians. He wants us to grow into the measure of the stature of a man of God, a woman of God, living like Jesus Christ with Christ’s likeness. So what you see between the Father and the Son is you see this unity. And now He wants you and I to show this unity. Why? Now let’s look at it again. He says, I want you to see this unity, **“...so that the world may [believe] that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.” (17:23b)** In other words, what He is saying here is, that our love towards one another is absolutely crucial. And what happens when we get on television or we get on radio or we get in the public spotlight and we start tearing down one another? I mean, who wants to belong to a body like that? who wants to belong to a group that is going to have all this in-fighting? I mean, all this “OK, come on put your dukes up. Let’s go. You know, because you and I disagree.” So, what we need to look at today is the unity that we have in the Spirit and we need to see how we preserve that unity. Now what we’re going

to see is seven things that automatically unify us in the body of Jesus Christ. And this is what we are to preserve. So let’s look at it. Let’s go back to Ephesians chapter 4, Ephesians chapter 4. And what I want to do is start in verse 1 and read down to verse 4 so that you can see the flow of thought. OK? **“Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you...,”** I beg you. I beseech you, **“...to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called....” (Ephesians 4:1)** That is a high calling, **“with all humility...,”** humility means that you humble yourself, **“with...gentleness...,” (4:2a)** is a meekness. That means that you’re not demanding your way and it means that you are able to be reigned in. And it means that you accept all of God’s dealings with you, without retaliation and without you know blowing it and getting mad and walking off in a huff. And it says, **“...and...with patience...,”** and patience means oooh you gotta long fuse. You’re not gonna just go off. You’re not just gonna spark off, but you gotta long fuse. **“...showing tolerance for one another in love....” (4:2b)** And that means that I look at you, and you may not be all that you should be, or all that I think you should be, and you and I may disagree but I am going to show tolerance for you. I’m going to look at the fact that you aren’t everything that I think you should be, that you are not absolutely perfect and I’m going to show tolerance for you. And I’m going to do it in love, love that [“...believes all things, bears all things, endures all things, hopes all things....”] (PARAPHRASE 1 Corinthians 13:7) You know it. It’s in 1 Corinthians and it’s defined for you there, and you can look at it later. It’s says, **“Being diligent...,”** in other words you are to exert yourself, **“...to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:3)** Now this is what we covered in our last program. And so you and I are to be **“...diligent to preserve...,”** and this is what I want you to see, **“...the unity of the Spirit [and] the bond of peace.” (4:3)** You drop down, and we looked at this in our last program, **“...until we [come] to the unity of the faith....” (4:13a)** All right, now what is the unity of the spirit in the bond of

peace that you and I are to preserve in the bond of peace? Well he’s going to give us seven ones. And those seven ones are the basics that belong to every true believer. In other words, when you come to know Jesus Christ there’re certain truths that are automatic that are set and that you will believe and you will embrace if you truly believe in God. They’re the fundamentals. They’re the foundational truths that just the minute you hear them you say, “yes”. And you say yes because you’ve been born again. You say yes because you’ve been given the mind of Christ. You say yes because the Spirit is in you and the Spirit’s bearing witness with your spirit that this is truth because He leads you and guides you into all truth. So those sevens are: **“There is one body and one Spirit, just as...you were [also] called in one hope of your calling.” (Ephesians 4:4)** One body, one spirit and one hope of your calling. All right that’s three. Verse 5, there is **“one Lord...,”** there is, **“...one faith...,”** and there is **“...one baptism...,” (4:5)** that’s six. And the seventh one is this: **“...[and there is] one God and Father of who is over all and through all and in all.” (4:5-6)** So, what He’s saying is, this is the way it is with every single believer. Every single believer is part of this oneness. And Jesus was praying that you and I would be perfected in this unity and, being perfected in this unity, that the world would look at us and not see us fighting and not see us quarreling and not seeing us pick at one another. You say, “But what if they are wrong?” You do that in private, Beloved. You don’t air your dirt laundry or you don’t air your differences before the world. Why? Because the world, in the first place, can’t understand doctrine. The world does not receive truth. It says, [“the things of God are absolutely foolish to the world.”] (PARAPHRASE, 1 Corinthians 2:14) And so the world sits there and listens to us debate and argue and slam one another on truths that they can’t understand because they’re foolish to the world. That’s 1 Corinthians chapter 2. What I’m saying is so absolutely vital and what we’re going to do is look at these seven ones because you’ve got to know them. You’ve got to understand them, so that you can be an

answer to the prayer of Jesus. Now we’ll talk about that right after this important announcement.

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back, my friend. Are you ready to go into those seven ones, to look at them and go a little bit deeper and find out what He means? Well the first one is this: that there is one body. Now if you’ve been studying Ephesians with me then you know, Precious One, that word “body” is a key repeated word in Ephesians. And by the way if you haven’t been studying it with me, you can still do it. It’s never too late with us to start digging into the Word of God, to be established in God’s Word, to discover truth for yourself. We have a free study guide that you can download by going to “[preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com)” that’s “[preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com)”. I want you to study with us. And that’s why, through the generosity of the giving of people to this ministry, we’re able to make this study guide absolutely free to you. We don’t want to miss one single soul that longs to study God’s Word. And by the way while I’m saying this I want to thank those of you that are supporting this program and I want you to know that without your support it would not be possible. You say, “Oh, but God would do it.” But see God always works with people. So people, thank you. Thank you, Precious One. Now, one body, this is what He’s talking about. This is the first thing that He mentions. And He mentions the body first because He wants us to understand that there are not two bodies, that there is no separation in Christ Jesus, that we have all been made one. Now in Ephesians chapter 3, in verse 6 it says, **“to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise...,”** (Ephesians 3:6a) And this word for “fellow”, as we saw before, means that it is co, it is joint. In other words if one of the members were thrown over there the body would be without one of its parts. So we are fellow members.

There is only one body. And if there is one body then, Beloved, what do you want? Do you want harmony in the body? Do you want peace in the body? Or do you want conflict? Do you want pain? Do you want wounding? No we don't want conflict. We don't want pain. We don't want wounding. Why? There's too much of that going on already and it should not be happening in the body. So you are to preserve, to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace because there is one body. And he goes on to say in Ephesians chapter 3, it says, **"...and [we are] fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." (3:6b)** See, that one body is the body of Jesus Christ and this is what you see in Ephesians chapter 1, in verse 22. And it says, **"And He put all things in subjection under His feet..."**, speaking of Jesus, **"...and gave Him as head over all things to the church."** Now watch what He says about the church, **"which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." (Ephesians 1:22-23)** And remember we saw that there is ["one God who was in all, through all."] (PARAPHRASE, 4:6) and so He **"...fills all in all." (1:23b)** This is what we have to remember, that we are one one body. Now go back to Ephesians chapter 4 and what does He say? **"There is...one spirit..." (Ephesians 4:4a)** Now listen to me very carefully, that one Spirit is the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit that indwells every single believer. Every single believer has the same Holy Spirit in him as the very Spirit of God that is before His throne. We're all inhabited so that if I come against another member of the body I am fighting, it's the Spirit fighting against the Spirit. It's really not because the Spirit doesn't fight against Himself, but what I'm doing is I'm causing a war. I'm causing a disruption. I'm causing a faction. I'm causing a division that is not of God and this is what He says in Ephesians. He says, **"There is one...Spirit..." (4:4a)** Now go to Ephesians chapter 1 verse 14, and if you've got your study guide you've looked up these and I'm proud of you, but this is review and for those that are not studying along with us yet. And I trust that if you just found us that I'm going to become an appointment on

your calendar as you discover truth for yourself as you mature in the knowledge of God, as you get to study God’s precepts. It says, **“Through thy precepts I get understanding: [and] I hate every false way.” (Psalm 119:104, KJV)** And I hate it because it’s false and because it’s not truth. So in Ephesians chapter 1, verse 13 it says, **“In Him...,”** in Jesus, **“...you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation...,”** you heard the message, **“...having also believed...,”** in your heart, **“...you were sealed...with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge...,”** a guarantee, **“...of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.” (Ephesians 1:13-14)** What is He saying? He’s saying, “Listen. The Holy Spirit is given to you.” And when the Holy Spirit is given to you the Holy Spirit is put inside of you so that the minute you die, you are absent from the body, you are present with the Lord. But that body that you possess, that is put in the ground, that is buried, that is cremated, or lost at sea or whatever, that body is someday going to be redeemed and it’s going to be redeemed because the Holy Spirit dwell in it. So what are you and I to realize? All right: that there is one body and there is one spirit, and this spirit is in every single believer, all right? Now, the third one, is there’s [“one hope of His calling”]. (PARAPHRASE, Ephesians 4:4b) Now He’s talked about the hope of the calling and we want to look at it again, and I want you to go to Ephesians chapter 1 where He prays. He prays in verse 18. He says, **“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling....” (Ephesians 1:18a)** You’re part of one body. You all have one spirit living inside of you. This is the unity now of the faith that you and I have. And we only have one hope of our calling. Well, I want you to go to 1 Corinthians chapter 1 for just a minute. Now 1 Corinthians was written to a church where there was a lot of infighting, where there were divisions, where there were factions. And those divisions and those factions were because they had not grown up, because they



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weren't keeping the unity of the spirit and it's because they had not come to the unity of the faith. And they were supposed to be doing this but they hadn't. But listen to what he says to them in 1 Corinthians chapter 1, and this is what he says in verse 9, **"God is faithful, through whom..."** through God, **"...whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ..."** (1 Corinthians 1:9) So this one hope of His calling is that **"...you were called into fellowship..."** to sharing in common with Jesus Christ. Now take that and put it with Romans chapter 8, so back up one book. And in Romans chapter 8 this is what he says. He says in verse 30, it says, **"and [those] whom He predestined..."** (Romans 8:30a) He marked out beforehand to be like his children. It says, **"...He also justified; and these whom He predestined, He also called; and...whom He called, He...justified; and [those] He justified, He...glorified."** (8:30) What is the hope of your calling? Hey, absent from the body, present with the Lord. This corruptible puts on incorruptible. We'll continue this in our next program, Beloved.