

**EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
PROGRAM 35 (#912215)
WEEK 7 (912347)
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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 35 – Walk Worthy Of Your Calling In The Midst Of Diversity

FRIDAY

OPEN

I love people who are like me. I love people that are wild cards. I love people that think like I think, that want to decorate like I decorate, dress like I dress, have fun like I have fun, study like I study. I love people like that. What about you? Don’t you love people that are like yourself? But what about those that are not like you? What do you think about them? Do you hold them in high esteem? We’ll talk about it today as we look at Ephesians.

PART ONE

It is easy isn’t it, Beloved, to love people like ourselves? After all they have the right opinions. They have the right understanding. They have the right goals. I mean they have the right tastes. They have the right personality. They’re just like us and yet what about those that are diverse from us? What about those that don’t have the same interest that are just exactly the

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opposite of us? Well what we’re going to look at today in Ephesians chapter 4 is we’re going to look at unity and diversity. We’re going to look at diversity in the midst of unity and I pray that looking at that diversity will help you love those that are not like you. Now remember what we’re doing. We’re in Ephesians chapter 4 and in Ephesians chapter 4 we’re looking at the seven ones. The seven ones that are the unity or the foundation or the seven givens of our unity in the faith. Remember he has told us that he wants us to “[be] **diligent....**,” I mean to be very careful to energize, to direct ourselves, “**...to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,**” (**Ephesians 4:3**) until and we come down to about verse 13, if I am remembering correctly, to “**until we [come] to the unity of the faith....**” (**4:13a**) We are looking at those seven ones that belong to every believer. Every single believer knows that there is one body and that body is the church. That there is only really one true church and that is one Spirit and it’s the one Spirit that puts us into the one body and makes us members of one another. And there’s one hope of our calling and that hope of our calling is that I am going to be like Jesus, that I am going to be glorified, that I am going to go to heaven. That I’m going to be absent from the body and I’m going to be present with the Lord. That’s the hope of my calling. The hope of my calling is that verse that we so love to quote in Philippians, [“He that has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”] (PARAPHRASE, Philippians 1:6b) Then we saw that there is one Lord. There is only one Lord, one master and that is Jesus Christ. There is one faith and that one faith is this word. It’s from Genesis to Revelation and we believe that this is the Word of God and it is the plumb line and that’s why we use the symbol of a plumb line at Precept Ministries. It is the plumb line for everything that I believe and for every way that I behave. It’s the plumb line of truth. All right now, we’ve also seen that there is one baptism and that’s where I left you. I left you with Matthew chapter 28 and realizing that there is a division over what this one baptism is. What we’ve got to

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understand is that this one baptism tells us that this is the one thing that unifies us. It is the one thing that is true to all believers. So if it's water baptism and that's what people believe then what about a person that has not yet been baptized? What about a person that believes and has no means of being baptized right then and there? Are they still part of the unity of the faith even though they haven't been immersed in water? Well some believe that that has to happen and if that water baptism hasn't happened then you're not a believer. And yet when you stop and think about that and when you search the Scriptures and this is the purpose of this program. The purpose of this program is to establish you in God's Word so that you will live a life of reverence for Him. Our goal for you is that you learn to study God's Word inductively. That you learn how to discover truth for yourself and you realize that this is the plumb line by which you are going to live. All right so we want you to know how to do that and so what we have is we have a free study guide. And that free study guide can be downloaded by going to "[preceptsforlife...](http://preceptsforlife.com)", just type it and no space in between, "preceptsforlife.com," All right now, as we look at it he says there is one baptism. I want you to go back to Matthew chapter 28 since I covered that in the last program but I want to read it to you again in case I've picked up somebody new in the sovereignty of God and if I did, welcome, and I pray that if you're hungering to know God's Word and you want to know it book by book, and chapter by chapter, and verse by verse, hey, you found the right program. God raised us up and brought us to the media for such a time as this so that you can discover truth for yourself and you can know how to live by His precepts for life. All right Matthew 28:19, **"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...."** (Matthew 28:19a) This is Jesus' command to His apostles and this is happening just before He ascends into heaven. Now they're in Galilee. He's going to go back to Jerusalem and there He's going to ascend into heaven. He's going to ascend from the Mount of Olives but this is before that. And He says, **"Go therefore and**

make disciples of all the nations....” (Matthew 28:19a) And this is what we’re doing with you. We want to make a disciple of you. A disciple is a follower of Jesus Christ. And it says, **“...of all the nations.” (28:19b)** So that means every nation on the face of this earth. God is not a white caucasian God. He is a God of all the nations. He created the nations, all right. And it says, **“...and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them...,”** and this is what we’re doing, **“...to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19b-20)** So first of all what I want you to know is this, because Jesus said it, we should be baptized. Because Jesus said it, we should be baptized in water. Because Jesus said it, we are to baptize in the name and the name means under the authority of, in the name of the Father, in the name of the Son and in the name of the Holy Spirit. Now what does that mean? That means that we confess all three of these. We confess God as Father, we confess Jesus as Lord and we confess the Spirit as the indwelling Spirit of God. We acknowledge all three. Now some people say oh I believe in God the Father but I don’t believe in Jesus Christ. Then you can know that’s not a true believer. That’s not a person that has genuine salvation. They can say oh I believe in Jesus and I believe in God but I don’t believe in the Holy Spirit. No, every true believer, listen. Every true believer will believe in God the Father and God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and they will see them as a unity as part of the divine Godhead as being equal one with the other in the sense of equal in nature. They have different offices and different purposes and eventually everything will be delivered up to God the Father, okay? All the kingdoms will be delivered up to Him and we’re gonna see that in just a few minutes but before that what I want you to see is that when you find a church in a controversy over baptism not the way that it’s done, not whether you’re dunked or your sprinkled or your poured. Those are all different theological interpretations but the fact that you are baptized,

the fact that you are identifying with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. “Baptism” means to identify with and so what they had was a word that signified this ancient recipe of how to take cucumbers and pickle them. How to make pickles and so they would take it and they would “bapto” it. They would dip it in the brine. But then there was another word that meant that you put it in the brine and you left it in the brine until the brine was “shlep” sucked up in that cucumber so that it became a pickle. So this is what He’s talking about. So you’re to be baptized, you’re to be united with, you’re to be identified with. It was used of taking a piece of cloth and dipping it into dye and when they dipped it into the dye it took on the color of the dye. It was white, was dipped into purple it comes out purple. So there’s a complete identification. He’s talking here about there is an identification. There’s an identification with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. That identification, now watch, is either declared by baptism and many people believe that He entered into the water, Jesus entered into the water. He went down. He came up and He was saying it is important for me to fulfill all things. So He told John, the Baptist, “John, baptize me that I might fulfill all things.” So it could be that but it could also be something else. And that is when it speaks of “**...one baptism**” (**Ephesians 4:5c**) it could be talking about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. So what is the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Does that mean that you have to have an extra experience after you get saved where you speak in tongues or where some kind of supernatural thing happens to you? Some people believe that but is that the baptism that he’s talking about? Is that the thing that every single believer has in common? Well that’s a question you need to answer and we’ll do that after this announcement.

PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved, and I want you to know that I do not use the term Beloved lightly. I really, really mean it. You are beloved to me because you

are beloved to God and He uses that word throughout the New Testament. I just want you to know that I am so proud of you for wanting to know the Word of God, for wanting to study God’s Word for yourself to discover truth for yourself, to be patient in walking through the Word of God and plumbing the depths. Now I left you with the mention of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Is that being overcome by the Spirit so that we speak in tongues? Well, I don’t want to lose any of you here but I want us to go back and I want us to look at that statement that there is “**...one baptism**” (**Ephesians 4:5c**) because this is the unifying thing. This is one of the seven things that is the unity of our faith. And so as we look at “one baptism” is that one baptism referring to water baptism or is it referring to the baptism of the Spirit? Well when you go and I would suggest that you write these scriptures down: 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 13. And what I want us to do is look at this very important verse and see that according to the Scriptures every single believer, every single believer has the baptism of the Holy Spirit in this sense, in this biblical sense. So 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 13. It’s in a passage on spiritual gifts and this is what we’re going to look at next. This is the diversity in the unity that I’m talking about. All right now, in 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 13 it says, “**For by one Spirit...**” one Spirit. (**1 Corinthians 12:13a**) Remember we saw that one of the seven givens is there is one Spirit. “**For by one Spirit we were all...**” all believers, “**...baptized into one body...**” (**12:13b**) Now we saw that there is one Spirit and we saw that there is one body. So “**...by one Spirit [were we] all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free...we were all made to drink of one Spirit.**” (**12:13**) Now it says that we were baptized by one Spirit and every single believer has been baptized by one Spirit. So many people believe that the “one baptism” is referring to not a time when you speak in tongues or something like that but that thing that happens to you the minute that you were saved. You are taken by God and through the Spirit you are baptized, you are unified in the body,

in one body. Regardless of who you are. Now, the word in baptism, go back to Ephesians chapter 4. But when it says “one baptism” there, the word for baptism is “baptisma,” “b-a-p-t-i-s-m-a” and it comes from “baptizo,” “b-a-p-t-i-z-o.” You got it? Okay, and it comes from baptizo not “bapto,” not “b-a-p-t-o.” You say, “Come on, you’re confusing me.” I know but there are two words, all right. “Bapto” and then words are taken from that and “baptismo” and words are taken from that. And what they’re saying is the word that is used for baptism in 1 Corinthians 12 “baptisma” comes from baptizo, okay. Now what’s the difference? Now watch. “Bapto,” “b-a-p-t-o” simply means to take the pickle, to take the cucumber and dip it in boiling water. This is from a writing of Nicander. I told you about this recipe we found in about 200 AD and so he was a physician and he was a cook obviously. And so he made pickles and so he says, “You “bapto” it. You dip it into boiling water. Then you baptizo, you dip it in and you let it sit in the brine.” Okay? So they say that this word “baptisma” is saying that this is something that is not water baptism but rather because it’s an absorbing, it’s a taking in, it’s unifying, it’s a uniting that it is the baptism of the Spirit.

“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body....” (1 Corinthians 12:13a) You say, “Mmm I don’t know which I believe.” I tell you what. Be obedient if you haven’t been baptized in water, get baptized in water. But just know this; that there is one baptism. There is one thing that unites us and whichever interpretation it is don’t let it divide you, okay? Don’t let it divide you. Just know that these are unifying truths and the unifying truth is this that every single believer has been baptized by the Spirit into one body. That ought to just bless your socks off because it’s telling you that God has united you into the body of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit by the baptism of the Holy Spirit and you’ll never get out. You’re in there forever. Now, what is the last of the sevens? The last of the sevens is God. There is, **“One God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.” (Ephesians 4:6)** Okay. So there’s “one God”

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and and just imagine you know that I have my fingers like a triangle above my head. This is God the Father, okay? So we have God the Father now. He's over all. So imagine that triangle over me and imagine me multiplied. Now no don't multiply me. We have enough of me but the whole body of Christ. He's over all. Now watch. He is through all and you know what? He's in all one God and Father. So, Beloved, when you look at another believer that believer has the same God that you have. That same God is in that believer. That same God is operating through that believer. That same God is over that believer that is over you. This, Precious One, is the unity, the unity of the Spirit that Jesus prayed for. That you and I would be perfected in as we saw several programs ago from John chapter 17. So you and I need to know this. We need to remember this. And yet remember I told you there's diversity in the midst of unity and that diversity is what you and I need to appreciate. And if you will just learn that every time you have a controversy or every time something happens that you disagree or you butt heads with someone who is not like you who is different than you that you stop and you think okay, let me check out the seven ones. And say okay, now are those seven ones true of both of us? And if they're true of both of us then what you have to do is you walk in love and in peace in the midst of your diversity, but you also walk in the midst of your immaturity and we're going to talk about that immaturity in a couple of programs because it's so essential. I want you to know and I want you to understand that one of the most important things that you can do as a believer in Jesus Christ is to live at peace with the body of Jesus Christ. This is going to mean you're going to humble yourself. This is going to mean that you're going to go through some difficult situations but they're not going to control you. The Spirit will control you instead.