Harmony In The Body Of Christ

Friday, 23rd September 2022 Bro. James Menni

Philippians 2:1-5

1 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

² Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

³ Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

⁴ Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

Ephesians 4:11-16

And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

We Have Been Called And Inducted Into The Great Body Of Christ, But Until We Get In Order, The Dynamics Won't Come To Make The Body Move

Before The Fall, Everything Was In Harmony

62-0211 - Oneness

14 Now, the first man and first woman in the garden of Eden was in perfect harmony with God, so much that God could come down at any time He desired and talk lip-to-ear with Adam and Eve.

Now, that is perfect oneness, God and His creation, God speaking lip-to-ear with Adam and Eve.

And they were so perfect in harmony with God till they were one with God. God and His family was one.

15 Any man and his family, a correct, good, noble, obedient family is one with another, any family. And if there's something in the family that moves them apart, then it's not right, the family's broken somewhere.

They should all be one, father with mother, mother with father, children with parent, parent with children, all in agreement. And, when you see that, you'll see one lovely picture.

16 That's God's purpose. And His purpose as Father, supreme, was to be one with His family, earthly family, Adam and Eve.

And the only way that they could be one with the family, or with God, was because God's nature was in them.

So that made them with God's nature in them, then with each other and God, they become all one. Isn't that a beautiful picture, God in His family, Father over all, supreme!

No death, no sorrow, no heartaches, no nothing; just joy unspeakable; never to be sick, never to have a heartache, just one with God!

What a picture! Because, the very nature of God was in these people. And therefore, what they did, they followed just in line with God, and God with them made them one.

When Man Fell, All Creation Under His Dominion Fell With Him

- 63-0317E The Breach Between The Seven Church Ages And The Seven Seals
- 91 And when nature and peoples, as the Bible said, "are groaning," it shows there is something, that they're not in their ought-to-be condition.

They have fallen from somewhere. Now, we don't need anybody to interpret that for us. See? For, of course, we know it was Eternal Life, they had fallen from.

And they lost their claims on Eternal Life, by the fall of Adam and Eve, who fell from Eternal Life, to death, in the garden of Eden, and brought all nature, under them, to death.

92 A tree never died, before Adam. An animal wouldn't die, before Adam. And there's only one thing that cannot die, and that's God, because He's Eternal.

And that's the only way we can ever keep from dying, we have to have Eternal Life in us, to be sons and daughters of God.

62-0311 - The Greatest Battle

Ever Fought

43 One night, what drew me to this conclusion here, I was standing with Brother Wood and Brother Sothmann. And we were...

It was about ten o'clock at night, and I was looking up towards the sky, and a great awe came over me. And I said, "Just look! All that great, heavenly host!" And I said, "Everything is perfectly in harmony."

47 And I thought of the order of that heavenly host, not one of them is out of place. Every one keeps its time, perfectly.

God's great army! I thought of the soldiers; how that if that moon would happen to get out of order, the earth would be covered again with water, just in a few minutes.

The earth would be just like it was when God decided to use it, for to have us here on it. "It was without form, and void, and darkness, and water was upon the breadth of the earth."

And if that moon would ever move, it would do the same thing again. When the moon rocks a little bit away from the earth, the tides come up.

When it goes down, just follows the tides. It's God's great army. And when I thought about the...that being God's great army there...

48 Now, we went to bed. And then I begin to think that not one of those get out of their place. They all set in place. And if there's a moving, anywhere, of them, it's for a cause, and will affect this earth.

We just see the results of it now, from some of them moving into their other spots. It's effective. It affects everything.

49 And I thought, then, if that great heavenly host, like that, has to keep its place, to make everything in order,

what about the disorder of the earthly host? How, when one gets out of order, how it throws the whole thing out of cater!

The whole program of God is upset when one member gets out of order. We should continually to strive to keep the order of the Spirit.

We Are Called Individually To Be Members Of One Body And Each One Of Us Is A Member In Particular

1 Corinthians 12:13-27

¹³ For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body is not one member, but many.

¹⁵ If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body?

And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling?

¹⁸ But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

And if they were all one member, where were the body?

But now are they many members, yet but one body.

And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary:

23 And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness.

²⁴ For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked.

That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

²⁶ And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.

60-0515E - Adoption #1 110 Now, who could doubt that? That's what Paul said. That's Paul's Scripture. That's Paul's writing. That's what he taught his church.

The church, positionally, before the foundation of the world. When God, in His labor pain, was bringing forth, bringing forth you, knowing what you would do,

He positionally placed you into His Own Body, to be a housewife, to be a farmer, to be a preacher, to be a prophet, to be this or to be tha t. He placed you positionally.

65-0120 - Lean Not Unto Thy Own Understanding 17 So, you see, if you were in the foreknowledge of God, then you are becoming a part of God.

And the only way you can be a son of God or a daughter of God, you had to be a part of God.

God.

and God isn't complete without you. Has to be. That's right, 'cause there is One, only one resource of Eternal Life, and that is God, and Him alone has Eternal Life.

See? Now, and you were a part of Him, insomuch that you're an attribute, or in His thinking in the beginning.

And that, because He thought of you in the beginning, it gives that little tug towards Him. That's what has to be quickened. Some of them will never be quickened; they just don't have it, that's all.

57-0407M - God Keeps His Word 228 God won't have a freak body. He won't have six fingers on one hand. There will just be five fingers on one hand.

The Body of Christ won't be freak. And when the last person has come into the Body of Christ, then it's over.

It's over. I don't know which one. This might have been the last one, this morning. You might have been the last one. Maybe over in Africa, today, the last one will be brought in.

But when the last one is done, I mean the...You may go ahead, preaching the Gospel, but there'll be no respond. See, there's no respond.

64-0216 - Identification 78 He came as a Redeemer. And to redeem anything, is to "bring it back." Amen. Bring it back! It was God's thought, you!

Think! Little you, little me; no one in the world could take my place, nobody can take yours.

You being a Christian and filled with the Spirit, God, and before the foundation of the world, seen you and knowed every feature that you got, see, and Jesus come to bring you back. That's what Jesus was here for, the Redeemer, the human body, to bring you back.

That had to come to be a human, as a Redeemer, to display His attributes as Saviour, come to redeem you and bring you back from where you come from. You were...

One Main Reason Why 76 The Power Of God Is Hindered Among Us Is Failure To Take Our Position, And Wanting To Take Another Person's

62-1013 - The Influence Of

Another

67 When you're playing a ball game, as it's football season, the thing we want to do, is not everybody try to take the ball away from the man that's got it.

He is trying to guard that man, protect him, let him get through. We're trying to make a goal. See?

68 But could you imagine a team so untrained as to find one man, their own man, with the ball running to the field goal, and then instead of trying to knock the enemy away from him,

the opposing team, to let your own man that's got the ball take off with it, every man trying to take the ball out of his hand? Why, you're bound to lose.

69 And today we have the same thing. When we see God come on the scene and going to bless a certain thing, let's keep all the enemies away from it.

Let's use our influences as tackles, not runners, tackles that protects the runner, lets him pack the ball through;

because there's no opposition, all he has to do is just keep running. And we should be tackles.

60-0515E - Adoption #1 51 Where the church is...Now this is my purpose of doing this. The church is always trying to take somebody else's corner.

But don't do that. You can never raise corn in Ephraim's corner, if you're Manasses.

You've got to take your place in Christ, positionally take it. Oh, it gets deep and rich when we get in here, how that God puts one in the church to speak with tongues, another...

Now, we have been taught many times, "we all have to speak with tongues." That's wrong. "We all got to do it." No, we don't. They all didn't do one thing. Each one was...

52 Each, the land was provided and divvied up by inspiration. And, each one, l could take the Scriptures and show it to you exactly, that he put them in the place where they was supposed to be,

positionally, how that the two half tribes was to stay across the river, how that their mothers cried that in their birth, and how that each place was supposed to be.

55-1110 - A Hidden Life In Christ 18.....We become too excited, upset, about too many things. It shows there's something lacking.

The church ought to be a million miles up the road to what it is now. We're still back down in the adolescent age, fussing, and fighting, and quarreling,

and stewing, when we ought to be consecrated, hid away in the Holiest of holies with God. It's better that we come easy, take our time, see where we're going.

We Have To Work With Each Other In Order To Meet The Challenge Of The Hour

60-0522E - Adoption #4 10 Bless us now as we approach the Word. And, Father, Thou knowest the reason that I'm approaching the Word from this very Scripture here.

It's because that I—I feel that You want me to do it this way, that it's Your Divine will, it's in Your order, it's in the...it's the order of the day,

to let the people positionally find their place and be ready for the hour of battle. As our brother said in his prayer to You not long ago, "Oh, You have trained us so long, Lord."

Now, Father, give us our ranks. Put us out there to what we're supposed to do, so we can be about the Father's

business. For we ask it in Jesus'

Name, Thy Son. Amen.

63-0714E - Humble Thyself 73 I was thinking here of one little illustration, to back up what he said. Now, we look at this watch, to find out what time it is.

Unless that every instrument in that watch is coordinating, one with the other, we'll never know the correct time. Is that right?

And that takes all of us, all together, if we want to see the Third Pull, really do something for God,

it's coordination with every one of us together, to humble ourselves before God and confess our wrongs, and pray and believe God for these things.

Our Diversity Should Not Separate Us

62-1111M - Dedication 42 And if while they were cutting the stone of a certain kind that was found in such a part of the country,

and maybe cutting a stone over in another nation, to fit this stone that was cut in the...another nation.

Now, it might have seemed very strange to the people, passer-bys that seen these odd-looking stones being cut. But God, in His Own way, was doing something.

50 The materials, cut out in their native land, brought into one place. But when they were brought together...l'm reading now from the 16th chapter, or quoting from it.

Now, when they were brought together, they were so perfectly fit, that, in the space of forty years that it taken to put the construction up, there wasn't one—one stone to be re-sawed.

There wasn't a buzz of a saw, or a sound of a hammer, for forty years. Talk about masonry, architecture!

51 Now, that showed, that, when we are doing anything, and doing it in the pattern that God has set for us...

52 Now, many of those stones looked very odd. But there was a place in the temple for every odd, peculiar stone. God had a place for them.

53 Our ministries, which is a beautiful type there, or an antitype to it, shows that, in our peculiarity, our way of worship.

Yet, when the Temple, the real Temple that we will come to after a few minutes, comes together, there will be a place for every odd-acting person.

We may look a little funny to someone else, and act a little funny; but, remember, it's the place there for us. God is cutting out His Church.

54 And every little stone had its place fit exactly to it. And remember, it was cut, away from the place it would be put together at;

but, when it come together, it didn't even need even honing. It was already honed. God had made it so it fit perfectly into its place.

55 Oh, what a type there we find, of the spiritual, how that every gift of God, every odd act of born-again Christians, in their peculiarity, yet it's got its place. It fits in the Body. It goes to its right place.

64-0418E - Jesus Keeps All His

<u>Appointments</u>

17 Just like the pyramid. Did you notice how the pyramid was made? Not a pyramid doctrine now; just a pyramid.

19 And the—the capstone that goes upon the pyramid, was...it was rejected. It never was on the pyramid, isn't till this day; the Stone of Scone, they claim.

But it never was put on, the capstone. Why? When Enoch and them, in the early days, built the pyramids down in Egypt, we find out,

and in there, they knew that the cornerstone, the capstone, would be rejected. And that pyramid is put so perfectly together till they don't need mortar.

It was so mechanically hewed out until one stone fits against the other one, so tight, you can't even put a razor blade between them.

Now, just kept heaping up, and now it's all honed off, on top, ready for the capstone when it will come.

God Will Not Fill His Church Until Every Member Assumes His Position And We Are Bound Together By Love

62-1104M - Blasphemous

Names

101 And she was worried about it, so she just laid down across the duofold where her husband was reading, and she went to sleep.

102 And she dreamed she was up on a mountain. And in this mountain, the best...I haven't got the paper before me, but I think it's like this.

She dreamed that she saw a—a rock box, like—like a—a framework, setting right in top of this mountain. And her husband was just behind her.

And she saw a large man standing there, with work clothes on, sleeves rolled up, bailing the most pure water that she ever seen, and pouring into this box, this rock box setting in top of the mountain.

And the rock box would not hold the water. And it rolled right out of there, and just boiled up all the trash and sticks, and everything in there, and boiled it out and rolled down the mountain. And it rolled over her feet, and she was standing right in that stuff, only it didn't stick to her.

103 And—and then she asked why the box didn't hold it, and the man said, "That is not water. That's the Holy Ghost, and," said, "nothing will hold It."

And said, then he went back and got another big bucket, and it was full of honey, and poured the honey into there, said,

"Now it will hold this." And she thought that the box, was a rock box, was going to burst out and spill the honey, but it didn't. It finally stuck together and held it.

62-1104M - Blasphemous

<u>Names</u>

124 But, what, this man who was pouring the water, the messenger to the church, pouring the Message into the church, but what was the water doing?

It was boiling out all the trash that was in it. That's what the Holy Spirit does, boils it up, now.

125 Now, the honey represented brotherly love, brotherly kindness, which is this age. I just got through telling, see, of brotherly kindness, the age that we live in now.

126 Now, you might say, "Look, I—I—I sure don't like Brother Neville." Or, "I sure don't like Brother Jones.

I don't like Brother So-and-so," and something like that. But just let something happen to him, brother, your heart is broke.

It just nearly killed you. See? We can obtain brotherly kindness and feeling for one another. See? But to maintain in a group of people...

127 Why do you care for that brother? Because you've broke bread with him here at the altar, as you will tonight. You fellowship with him. You shook his hands. You worship with him.

He's your brother. And he might do something in the flesh, that you would disagree with, because you just kind of stay, (which you oughtn't to do), but shun him a little.

But in the bottom of your heart, if something happened to that brother, it would just nearly kill you, or that sister.

128 I—I'm an old man. I was once young, and now I'm old. l've seen it, down through the age, do that. Hear people say, "I just won't have no more to do with him."

And something happen to that man, it nearly kills him. He thinks, "O God, I let my precious brother go, without making friends with him."

You see? See? See? It's brotherly love. It looks like it won't stick, but it does stick. The honey, it sticks.

We Need Each Other

62-0121E - The Marriage Of The Lamb

78 You know, when I was first converted in the...become a Missionary Baptist preacher, I thought, "If a person wasn't a Baptist, he just wasn't saved.

That's all there was to it." And I packed a Bible under my arm, and I thought the Lord called me to make everybody Baptist.

"And everybody didn't believe just like the Baptists believed, they was not in the picture at all."

79 As the days went on, I thought I had the whole job to do, myself. And I come to find out, I noticed another brother that had a church, a pastor.

He pulled too, just as hard as I did. After all, the blanket stretches a little bit over towards him too, you know.

80 Then we find out, we need one another. And now, after we begin to get this far along, it's just kind of hard to do without one another.

That's all. We just got to have one another, that. And I believe that's in this great pentecostal move.

I'm glad to see those barriers of indifference breaking down, the great Church of God begin to merging itself together in fellowship. Means that the wedding is coming nearer now.

And the stones, are peculiar cut as they may be, they got a place somewhere in that building, if they're the stones of the Lord.

God Is Waiting For The Church To Get In Order So He Can Fill It With Himself

59-1217 - What Was The Holy **Ghost Given For?** 51But now, when we need It, the Spirit of God raises a standard. What is it? He is pouring in His Spirit.

Then, those who are resting out yonder in the grave, or under the altar of God, as the Scripture says, are crying, "How long, Lord?

How long? How much longer?" God is waiting on me and you. The Church is waiting on me and you. Adoption time, when God can pour into us His fullness,

His Power, His resurrection, that when the Church and Christ become so close together till Christ becomes visible among us, and raises the dead, and we go into the Rapture.

63-1124M - What Shall I Do With Jesus Called Christ? 115 Let me say something, too; this uniting time, to see churches uniting, nations uniting. It's a uniting time of God and His Bride, too.

And I say this with reverence and respect.

I believe that the Bride of

Christ is called. I believe She is sealed in the Kingdom of God. I believe the mechanics is there.

They're waiting for the Dynamics that'll take Her off the earth, into Glory, in the Rapture. I believe it with all my heart. Yes, sir. We don't know how He's going to do it, but He shall do it.

He is the Dynamics. We just become members of the machine, of His Body, forming ourself into His image, and see Him uniting Himself 164 with us, in His works, with His love gifts, as He hands them to us just before the Wedding Supper. And we're waiting, watching for that. Their big church is to be united.

116 The Dynamics of this Chur ch will be a refilling of the Holy Spirit that we have worked in a small measure while the Headstone is coming down to unite with the Body.

But when that Head and Body unites together, the full power of the Holy Ghost would raise Her up just exactly like that;

even the dead, that's dead in Christ, for hundreds of years ago, will rise in the beauty of His holiness, and take a flight to the skies. The Dynamics is the Holy Spirit.

Persecution Will Drive Us Together

51-0502 - The Angel Of The Lord 21 And I believe that we fared sus—sumptuously. In the early days there was a great persecution against religion. And as we know in Revelation and so forth,

where the woman fled into the wilderness and was nourished there for a time, time, and the dividing of time. And we're down to that end time now.

22 The word of the little lamb that rose up in Revelation 13, a lamb. Two little...Probably a little horn—civil and ecclesiastical power. But after is lamb, freedom of religion and so forth.

But after while, he spake like a beast, like the dragon, and exercised all the power the dragon did before him, a bitter religious persecution. We're nearing that time.

You remember, Church, that you're living in the best day that you've ever will live in, right now, until Jesus comes. It shall gradually...Not gradually, but rapidly get worse and worse.

When Russia goes down there to get that oil, look out. That's all she needs. That's what the prophet said it would do. And we're ready for it then.

So Church, get ready to meet Christ. He's sending great revivals and meetings, and stirring the full Gospel people.

Signs and wonders appearing everywhere, Great wonders to draw His people together. And one day He shall come, the Deliverer.

23 Now, notice. Just before He taken them out to the promised land, they begin to cry, bitterly cry. The taskmasters was heavy.

And he begin to bitterly cry to God. And when they did, God had a little boy born down there, a very peculiar birth, Moses.

Let Us Stand As We Ought With Each Other

63-0728 - Christ Is The Mystery Of God Revealed 80 Love one another, above everything. Love one another. Don't...No matter what the devil tries to say! Now you're all one great big sweet group

but remember my warning, see, Satan won't let that stay that way. No, sir. He'll shoot everything, if he has to bring somebody in to make his target.

He'll bring some critic or unbeliever in, and sit him down, and cause him to fellowship with you under the quietness and things,

and then he'll shoot that guy with some kind of a poison stuff, and he'll start through the church with it. Don't you take sides with it. Don't you have nothing to do with anything else.

You stay right loving and sweet and kind to one another. Pray for that man, that he'll be saved too, or that woman, or ever who it is, just pray for them. And stick one with another.

81 And stay with your pastor. See, he's the shepherd, and you give him respects. He'll lead you through, and, 'cause he's ordained of God to do so. 82 Now do you remember that? [Congregation says, "Amen."—Ed.] The enemy will come. And when he does, just cling that much closer together.

And the one that the devil is using for an enemy will either get out or come in and be one of you. That's all.

83 Don't never clan among one...or—or talk, make yourself clannish. We are one. I couldn't say, "Left hand, I'm—I'm mad at you, I'm going to take you away 'cause you're not a right hand." He's my left hand.

I want him to stay there. Even the little tip of my finger, I want to stay right there, every little part of my body stay right there.

And God wants us, as a body of believers, to stay right exactly with one another, right at with one another.

65-1031M - Power Of

Transformation

8 I think there is nothing greater than love. And love, if we can't express it...Now, we can say that we have love, we're just saying that.

But when we can really express what we've said that we have, then we show it in ourselves. 9 Now we're not a perfect people. We make our mistakes. We do things that's wrong. But, you see, love covers all of that.

We're willing, when we see our mistakes, to come back and apologize to one another. Yeah, that's—that's warriors. That's—that's really men and women that's gallant.

Any man can go out to the battlefield, that's got nerve enough to walk out there; but when he gets knocked down, then get up and try it again, see.

There used to be a song that a young man and young woman used to sing in the church, "If I fall or if I fail," see, "if I fall or if I..." I forget how it goes. "Let me rise and try again."

Forgive me, Lord, and try me one more time, (See? See?) If I fall or if I sin, let me rise and try again, Just forgive me, Lord, and try me one more time.

10 And with as many as a hundred and twenty people here together, you are bound to—to find things sometimes,

the enemy will sweep in among you, and through your minds, and—and start this, that. Just stop when he does it.

Think back, think of this morning, think of the times when you're sitting together in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

63-1114 - Influence 25 Oh, if we in the church, as the members of the Body of

Christ, could only work in harmony like that, you would see a great and mighty Church of the living God,

all in one array, filled with the Holy Spirit. Wouldn't it be wonderful? Every member of the Body functioning just exactly to its place,

every gift to its place, every gift helping the other, every member helping the other, that would be wonderful. That's what we want to see. But we'll see it someday, and if it be right.