**I Corinthians 1:10-17**

***Division Is Never Of God***

Introduction

1. Is there a division between you and another brother or sister in Christ?

2. I Corinthians 1:10-17 The Corinthian church was divided. What is the remedy for division?

Is there division between you and another? Division is never of God.

**I. THE REMINDER IN DIVISION 1:10**

 ***A. We Are Brothers*** *Brethern*

**1.** We have the same Father through our relationship to Jesus Christ.

 **2.** John 1:12 *But as many as received Him, to them gave He the power to become*

 *children of God, even to them who believe on His name.* We received. We

 believed. There is a common experience: Conviction…Common Call…

 Conversion…Cleansing.

 **3.** We are part of His family. How is this going to look to those who are outside?

 ***B. We Are Blessed*** *by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*

**1.** Ten times in ten verses Jesus is brought into the conversation.

 **2.** *Name* speaks of character. It is all that Jesus is. Division hurts Him.

 **3.** *Our* we belong to Him. It is not what pleases you. It is what pleases Him.

 **4.** *Lord* He is in control, not you. *Jesus* He is the One who died for us. *Christ* He

 is the Messiah. He is the coming again. Live like it. Let’s start with Jesus

 before we attack the problem.

 ***C. We Are Bound*** *that there be no division…be united* The word *same* then

 dominates the emphasis.

**1.** *Same mind*

**2.** *Same judgment*

\*His reasoning is that they be perfectly joined together. Does that mean God

 wants us all to be cookie cutter looking, thinking and reasoning the same?

 \*He desires unity of all parts. It is like a quilt of various and numerous colors.

 They are bound together for a common cause, a common purpose and function.

Is there division between you and another? Division is never of God.

**II. THE REALITY OF DIVISION 1:11-12**

*Divisions* in v. 10 and *Contentions* in v. 11 are both plural. The report from the house

 church of Chloe is the division is real. Is there division? Admit it! Face the fact!

 *There are contentions among you.*

1. ***A Common Problem 11*** *I say this to everyone of you*
2. It can happen to anyone.
3. We are all just one attitude, one reaction, one remark from holding or harboring a spirit that wrangles and quarrels. We want to ‘stand up for our rights!’
4. It is not the *same*, it is our differences.
5. ***A Common Peril 12***

The peril is to unite around people, personalities, or parties. We develop a party spirit instead of what is best for the team.

1. *I am of Paul…I am of Apollos…I am of Peter…I am of Christ* (this would be super spirituality presented in a negative way).
2. It's not the man, for each have positive qualities. Perhaps the emphasis was upon teaching, preaching or carrying out the program of the church.
3. Every church split invites people to pick or choose sides, choose philosophies. These men did not desire to be placed on a pedestal. They were just doing what God had called them to do.
4. Honor and respect is good, but dividing over a man or men is never good.

Is there division between you and another? Division is never of God.

**III. THE REMEDY FOR DIVISION 1:13-17**

 Get back to Jesus Christ and why we are here.

1. ***Get Back To Jesus 13***

Three questions are presented. All expect a negative answer.

1. *Is Christ divided?* The Body of Christ has many members, but all have one expression or statement. Division is not a true representation of who or what Christ is. We give the world the wrong impression.
2. *Was Paul crucified for you?* Paul is the writer of the epistle and uses himself as an example.It’s not about Paul, Peter or Apollos. Who died for you?

Let’s focus on what we agree on. Let’s never get too far from the Cross.

1. *Were you baptized in the name of Paul?* No. They were baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It was in the name of Jesus Christ. It was by His authority. Who is Paul anyway? Who are you anyway?
2. ***Get Back To Basics 14-17***
3. **Minor Matters 14-16** It’s not baptism. Baptism must have been an important feature in the division.

**\***Minor things become major in divisions. Preach Jesus Christ…the Cross…and the Gospel.

**\***Realize what’s minor and then don’t major on what is minor. What really matters? What is really important?!

\*Vss. 14-16 Paul was glad that he had only baptized a few, and then he mentions them by name. *I know not whether I baptized any others.* Paul is not belittling baptism, but man worship…dividing over personalities and practices. Baptism may have been part of the argument. Baptism must not have been essential for salvation or Paul would have made it part of his Gospel message.

\*What really matters?

 **2. Major Matters 17** Paul never lost sight of his objective…**preach Christ!**

Preach in a way that people can understand it.

 \*Know why you are here and then live for it. Division wastes so much

 energy.

 \*Satan want us to get side tracked as to why we are here. We can spend our

 whole life majoring on minors.

 \*We will eventually forget our major (why we are here).

 \*Divisions and contentions stop the real cause of Christ. We soon lose sight

 of the cross.

Is there division between you and another? Division is never of God.

**Stop majoring on personalities and minor stuff.**

**Get Back To Jesus and Get Back to why you are here.**

**Let nothing deter you from the purpose to which God called you.**

**LET IT GO!**