

Ephesians Handout Week Eighteen

What do we have in common:

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you also were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Unity is not _____

Diversity _____ unity.

It's not saving grace it's _____ grace.

Who gives the gifts? Eph. 3:7, 1 Cor. 12:1, 1 Cor. 12:4-6

Grace according to the measure of Christ's gift?

Implications?

Slave who buried the talent?

The giver of gifts, the make-up of gifts, the purpose of gifts...

7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.

8 Therefore it says (Ps. 68:18),

"When He ascended on high, He led captive a host of captives, And He gave gifts to men."

9 (Now this expression, "He ascended," what does it mean except that He also had descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is Himself also He who ascended far above all the heavens, so that He might fill all things.)

11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service...

Why go back and read the quote...

1.

2.

Ps. 68. MT / LXX

You ascended to the height;

you captured captivity;

You received gifts among humanity.

Eph. 4:8

Ascending to the height,

he captured captivity;

He gave gifts to human beings.

There are no contradictions in the Bible, just bad exegesis, lazy analysis or insufficient knowledge. But there are unresolved difficulties.

But it was written by men! Meaning what?

2 Tim. 3:16

Well, what's up with Eph 4:8 then? Who is the "you" and "he"? What is the bigger story and how do they relate?

-Context of all other writings. How does the OT relate to the NT?

Jn. 6:49, Ps. 23, Jn. 3:14-15, 1 Pt. 2:4, 1 Cor. 1

Eph. 1:18-23—Eph. 4:10--- Ps. 68 68:34-35

-Culture and bridging the gap. The change of "received" to "give".

"lower parts of the earth": Don't get caught in the weeds or force it to say something it isn't going for.

The bigger point-

Phil. 2:5

“so that He might fill all things”:

The giver:

The make-up of the gifts:

7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift...

11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints....

Cessationist-

continuationist

Kata-ationist

Some as apostles:

-Generic sent ones. Jn. 17:18

-Apostle of churches. 2 Cor. 8:23

-Christ's Apostles. Acts 10:40, 1 cor. 15:8

Which one is Paul talking about here? How do you know?

Some as prophets:

-The prophets

-Other understandings. Special gift of Biblical insight, An insight into the signs and times and culture and how scripture apply. Called to admonish, encourage, convict and console.

1 Cor. 14:3, Acts 15:32

-Pentecostal/charismatic understanding. New words. How can this be dangerous?

Interesting... Acts 21:10

Some as evangelists.

Some as pastors (poimen/shepherds) and teachers OR pastors who are also teachers.

Generally Col. 3:16. Specialists Acts 13:1 James 3:1

Why these 4/5 gifts?

The purpose of the gifts:

11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

Equipping.

To the building up. Who does this?

Why is this a radical change?

Is there still a distinct pastoral ministry still?

What are we equipped for?

What does building up mean?

How long do we do this work? What are we building toward?

13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Character of charity for the unity of the body, built up by the diversity of the gifts until we reach maturity in line with the fullness of Christ Himself.

Until:

We all:

Until we all attain to the unity of the faith.

Communion 1 Cor. 11:23, 1 cor. 12:27

14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery (dice) of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

Signs of maturity—

1. No longer children

Not selfish 1 Cor. 3:1

Not ignorant

Not gullible

Discussion

The history of the church, all the way back to the garden, is riddled with children seasick on a rocking boat because they were not anchored to the truth. Or who were willing and eager to believe lies.

What are some examples “childish behavior” from the Bible?

What are examples in the church from the last 50 years—fads and doctrinal shifts that led some astray? Think authors, pastors, theologians, trends, people who espouse one thing but live an entirely different way.

Were you tempted by any of the crafty, shiny schemes? It’s O.K. to admit it. We all did dumb stuff growing up. You may be doing dumb stuff now.