



# HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

*Where Jesus Christ is still Lord*

## *Our Vision*

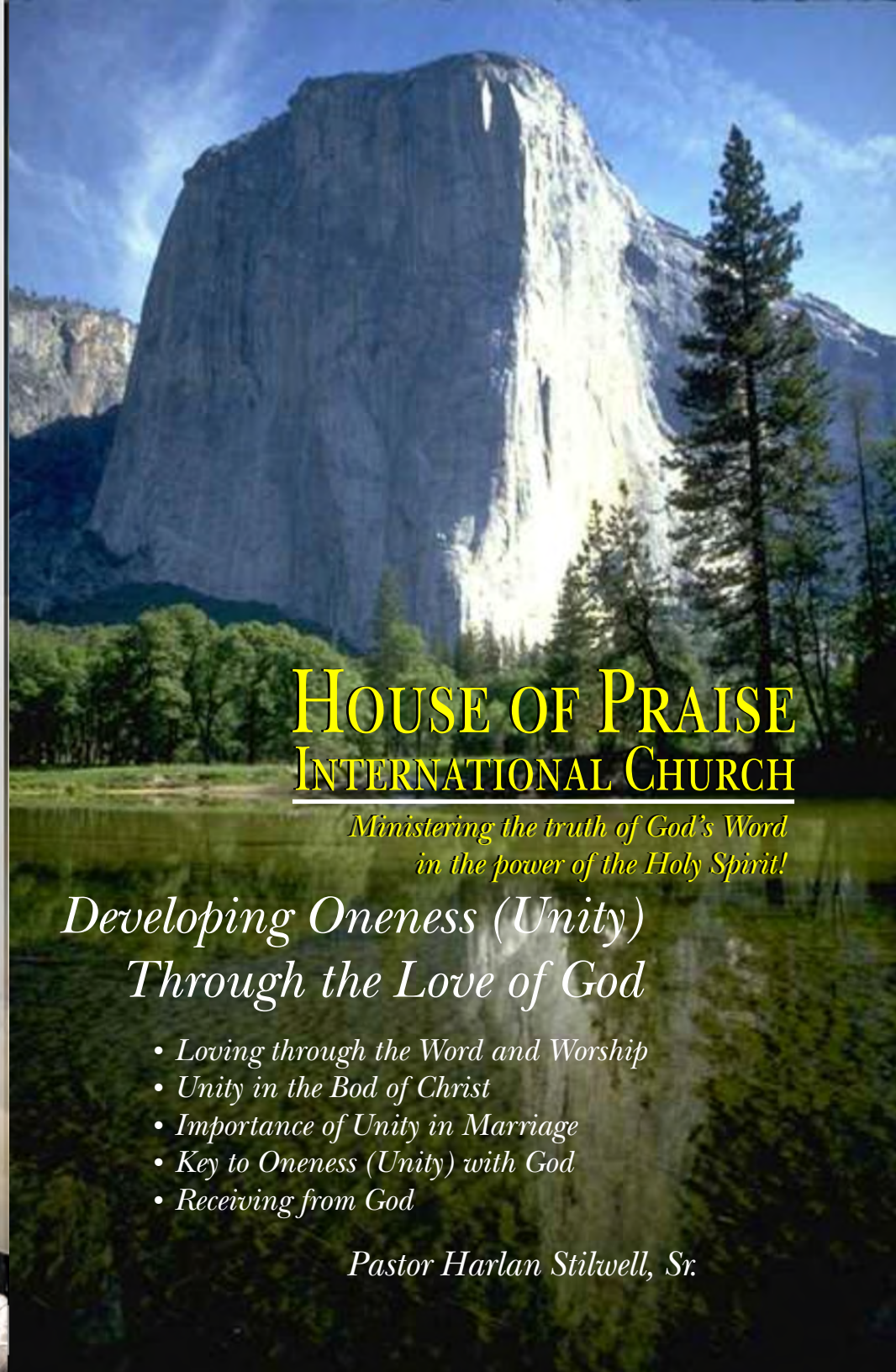
*Our Goal and desire is the same as that of our Lord Jesus Christ, to fulfill God's end-time calling to enlarge the Kingdom of God, by reaching the multitudes with the gospel of Christ for all levels of our society. We are bringing glory and honor to the Father of our Lord Jesus by teaching and preparing God's people for works of service through the Word and Anointed Worship, through the manifested presence and revelation power of the Holy Spirit.*

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# HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

*Ministering the truth of God's Word  
in the power of the Holy Spirit!*

## *Developing Oneness (Unity) Through the Love of God*

- *Loving through the Word and Worship*
- *Unity in the Bod of Christ*
- *Importance of Unity in Marriage*
- *Key to Oneness (Unity) with God*
- *Receiving from God*

*Pastor Harlan Stilwell, Sr.*

# HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

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*Booklets written by Pastor Harlan Stilwell, Sr.*

*Understanding the Lord's Passover*

*Developing Oneness (Unity) Through the Love of God*

*Developing the Kingdom of God Within Us*

*Receiving the Wisdom, Understanding,  
and Knowledge of God*

*Guidelines For HOPIC'S Home Cell Groups*

*Understanding God's Life Within Us*

*Developing Our Spirit Man*

*Changed By His Glory*

*Understanding Our Redemption*

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# HOUSE OF PRAISE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

*Pastor Harlan & Doris Stilwell, Sr.*



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*Ministering the truth of God's Word  
in the power of the Holy Spirit!*

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with you the treasures and riches which He cannot reveal to those in a hurry and have no daily time to seek God.

It is time well spent. It is not wasted, for you are receiving manna from heaven because you took time and interest in receiving from God.

Revelation of the word comes (*Mark 4:24*). It is meat, rhema, truth for righteousness sake and is for the here and now (*II Cor. 6:2*).

DECLARE IT! DECLARE ONLY what God says and speaks.

Don't be discouraged by circumstances.

Stand on the truth of God's word and His principles.

He is Jehovah Shammah, the ever-present one with us, working miracles.

He is changing us from glory to glory (*II Cor. 3:18*).

God's manifestation here on earth will be revealed through you, His body and His glory will be all consuming AS YOU take time to dwell in His presence.



- Who you are (In Christ)
- And what your rights and privileges are

And grab hold of them and DECLARE them! But you would say What about My Circumstances? You can rise up out of your circumstances by the word. Don't allow your circumstances to dictate where you are and who you are. II Cor. 4:18. As you walk in the word and begin to declare the word, circumstances can no longer hold you back and keep you in bondage. For you see:

- You are redeemed (free) from the curse of the law (*Gal. 3:13*).
- You have been redeemed through the blood of Jesus (*Col. 1:14*).
- You are joint heirs with Jesus (*Rom. 8:17*).
- You are, in the eyes of God, esteemed high above all men because we are His chosen generation and a royal priesthood. *1 Peter 2:9* that;
- As you begin to meditate in and study the word (*Joshua 1:8*), and allow the word to be digested (assimilated) fully in you, it will be revealed in you and it becomes a part of you.

Many people take this lightly and glance at it and say yes, I know, but don't digest it in its fullness (so there is no rhema). BUT as you allow the word to be digested fully in you, (your spirit man), you will receive rhema. You will assimilate it and it becomes you (like your flesh) and you will declare it from within you.

You will grab hold of it, as you understand that God desires to teach you. To unfold the mysteries (keys) of the Kingdom of God to you and revelation will come forth (*Luke 8:10; 1 Cor. 13:2; Matt. 16:17*).

YES, but God can only work through men and women that SERVE HIM AND KNOW HIM.

Jesus paid the price and shed His blood for your redemption BUT YOU, like Jesus, must come into the fullness of the word and declare it! He will then speak to your heart and begin to reveal the word and build you up on your most holy faith.... THEN, you will rise up in your inner most being and revelation knowledge will abound...Hallelujah!!

Take the time to study the word and set yourself apart so that God can share

## *Developing Oneness (Unity) Through the Love of God*

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### **Loving Through the Word and Worship**

As you begin to believe and to receive of God's Word, that is to say really partake of it, then you will have the understanding, which are the revelation and the confidence to act on that Word. Father God has given you all that He has to give. He has given you His Son, and He has given you the Holy Spirit, but most of all He has given you His Love.

God created you because He loved you. And He has insured your life with His Love. And as you begin to receive of Him through the Word, you will receive of His Love and you will understand, and you will not be so quick to judge or speak out but you will begin to understand how He operates and you will be like Him and you will begin to move and do as He does and speak as He speaks. And that Love that He has given you will begin to be activated in your life. And you will not be so quick to stumble because the love will keep you. Did He not say that He would keep you in perfect peace? It is His love that keeps you says the Spirit of God. And you won't be so judgmental because His love covers a multitude of sin. Yes, you will be aware, you will be wise, but you will have the love to be able to understand and to minister and to speak the truth and to walk upright. And yes, that love will even cause you to put the devil under your feet because good and evil cannot mix, light and darkness cannot mix. And the love that you have for Him will speak out; it will cause the enemy to flee because you will begin to know what His word says. It will be revealed in you because you have partaken of it, you have digested it in its' fullness. For see when He says His fullness He has given you, when He sent His Son He gave you all, He gave you the best. And then He sent the Holy Spirit, His Spirit, to guide you. After His Son came back, bringing His blood that He shed on Calvary's cross for the remission of your sins, it was then He sent the Holy Spirit to lead and guide you so that you would not be ensnared or tangled. Then He sent His Word and He lives on the inside of you to keep you in that perfect peace.

Know this hour that He is with you and His Love will keep you steadfast. It is the anchor of your soul. It will keep you; it will lead you and guide you. Has not He said that the greatest gift is Love? Have you not love, because if you have love, it will cause you to rise up and to stand on the word and to believe Him for the

Words' sake. And it will cause you to remember the blood that Jesus shed for you for your sin. And it will cause you to know that He sent His Spirit to guide you out of the snarls and traps.

So let His love be shed abroad in your heart. Let His Love be that guiding factor, that ruling factor in your life. Let it stabilize you says the Spirit of God. When you don't know what to do, call upon Him and that Love that He has given you will stabilize you and keep you rooted and anchored. And yes, you will begin to partake of the Word. And as you begin to partake of the Word, His love will strengthen, and grow bigger in you. God has already given you love but it roots you and guides you into that place in Him. It keeps you from failing, says the Spirit of God. It keeps you from being brash. It keeps you from speaking vile. It keeps you from entertaining those wicked and evil thoughts the enemy sends your way because the love that you have for Him will cause that evil one to flee when you stand on the Word.

Let His word be the deciding factor in your life (*Col. 3:15*). When you don't know what to do, call on Him and His Word will begin to rise up in you. Begin to worship Him. As you worship Him, YOU begin to pour out YOUR love for HIM. And as you begin to pour out your love for Him, He draws you into His presence and the enemy cannot stand in His presence, because in His presence is fullness of joy says the Spirit of God (*Acts 2:28*).

So yes, His love is real, it is alive and it works. Use it! For He has given it to you to keep you in perfect peace. He has given it to you to root out and pull up those things that desire to keep you in bondage says the Spirit of God. It is the love that YOU have for Him that will cause the enemy to flee. It will cause you to do the things that He desires you to do.

So yes, that love will cause you to worship Him, you will woo Him, you will seek Him, you will praise Him, you will exalt His name, you will lift up His name on high and you will speak truth. And yes, you will dance in His presence, you will rejoice and you will just fellowship together. And that love will strengthen you. That love will bring you to the highest of heights. That love will keep you. That love will shine on your face and it will let men know that you are one with Him. And you will be able to win many people because of that love. You see, the enemy has distorted His love. He goes out and He promises love and compassion but he has

As we enter into the throne room of the most high God, we enter into His presence. And as we take time to sit at the Masters feet, He will surely feed us and teach us His word. "For in Him dwells all the FULLNESS of the Godhead bodily; And *"ye are COMPLETE (lacking nothing) in Him, which is the head of all principality and power"* (*Col. 2:9-10*).

"Of His FULLNESS have all we received, and grace for grace [grace, spiritual blessings, favor, gifts] (*John 1:16*). And we are "To know the LOVE of Christ, which passeth knowledge, THAT you might be filled with all the fullness of God" (*Eph 3:19*).

*"...that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge"* (*Col. 2:2-3*).

We can see from these scriptures that truly God has held back nothing but has given us all things through Christ "Therefore brethren, having boldness to enter the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our faith without wavering, for He who promised is faithful" (*Heb. 10:19-22*).

As babes in Christ (*Heb. 5:13*), God's strong desire is that you grow up and come into HIS FULLNESS and understand in His fullness:

- Who He is and
- What He has done for your redemption.

You have been delivered (redeemed) from all the powers of darkness and have been translated into the kingdom of God, to receive all that He has to give (*Col. 1:12-13*).

Therefore, you must prepare yourselves to receive and understand, in the light of the word:

There is NO OBSTACLE that CANNOT be moved with praises to God on your lips.

So, praise loud call His name. That name which is above every name and has all power and authority. You see, praise knocks down walls (*Josh. 6:1-5; 12-20*).

Praise stills (silences) the Avenger (enemy) (*Psalms 8:2*). And when you lift up your heart to Him AND you lift up your mouth AND you lift your mind, you actually change within yourself, your own thoughts, and your own desires for the spirit of the Lord changes us into His image, from glory to glory (*II Cor. 3:18*).

It is in worship and praise, when God fills us with His presence (glory). THE glory is what changes us to be like Him.

As you lift your voice, He fills you with joy AND YOU drive out, through your praises, ALL UNEASINESS, DISTRESS, ANY OBSTACLES (enemies) AND He fills you with JOY, FOR HE IS PRESENT WITH YOU. No darkness can stand in His presence.

When we are ONE with God, He is our God, our Keeper, He gives us knowledge, peace and strength and we have no love for our desires, our feelings and ourselves. We can contain all of Christ by praising His name, lifting our voices up loud, with the praises of our lips. "[That you may really come] to know [practically, through experience for yourselves] the love of Christ, which far surpasses mere knowledge [without experience]; that you may be filled [through all your being] unto all the fullness of God [may have the richest measure of the divine Presence, and become a body wholly filled and flooded with God Himself!]" (*Eph 3:19, Amplified*).

## RECEIVING FROM GOD

*Romans 8:17*, tells us that we are "...heirs of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ". It is sad to say however that most Christians do not know how to receive or partake of the blessings Father God has provided to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. You however can begin to receive now as you act upon the revelation given by the Holy Spirit.

will keep them, and it will cause them to get up from the depths of despair and will cause them to begin to cry out. It will give them hope. It will stabilize their life and they will begin to run from those things that the enemy has entertained them with for so many years. It's alive and it works, and it works well. He created you to love you. And that's a powerful force. Yes it is an emotion but it is a force. It is a force that will strengthen you. It is a force that will cause the enemy to flee. Had Satan truly loved God He would not have failed Him. So let God's love be rooted and grounded in you. Let God's love be shed abroad in your heart (*Rom. 5:5*). Let God's love be in you and let it beam on your face.

As you begin to worship Him your countenance changes. So go to that secret place and begin to call on Him. When you don't know how to pray, when you don't know how to talk, when you don't know how to cry out, just begin to love Him, just begin to say I love you Lord and He will show you and lead you out of the depths of despair and He will lead you out of the traps that the enemy has set for you. You see the enemy does not care what it takes to destroy you. He will give you whatever he thinks you like and he will cause you to turn to him because he's a deceiver. But God's love will bring you out. His love will keep you. His love will expose the true from the false says the Spirit of God. So let His love be the ruling factor in your life. For did not He say in His word that if you have not love, I don't care how many times that you speak or what you do, if you don't have His love, you have nothing. It profits you nothing if you have not love. So love, the love that God has will not allow you to perish as you grab hold and receive it. BUT you MUST grab hold and receive it unto yourself. And when you receive it unto yourself then you can begin to share and allow it to spill over into the lives of those that you come in contact with. So let God's love, rule and reign in your heart and it will strengthen you. It will cause you to be bold. It will cause you to say nay. It will cause you to say yeah. And you will not have to qualify your answers because you will KNOW that you are one with Him.

Now God is edifying you and He is strengthening you. Know this because He wants you to come into the place where you can rest in Him and not be moved by every obstacle that comes your way. But He is giving you tools that will enable you to stand. He is showing you that circumstances do not dominate but He is showing you that His love will stabilize you. So just begin to worship Him like you never worshiped Him before. This will be a time, as we enter into it, that worship will dominate the ministry. It will be the primary thing that He is seeking this day

their whole heart. They give out all that they can give. When you do that, He pours into you all that He can pour into you. Yes, He has given you all that He can give. But He strengthens you and He encourages you and He exalts you and He keeps you and He woos you. And He picks you up from the drugs of life, those things that beat you down and call you hither and yon. Yes He loves you little children. He loves you with a special love. And that love is filled with an anointing and with power. For He first loved because He gave His only begotten Son. And remember that He first loved says the Spirit of God in GIVING. He gave because He loved. And YOU will begin to give and to do because you love Him. Not seeking for what you can get BUT because you love Him. And in that loving you will be receiving.

So this year is your year to rise up. Know that God is encouraging and edifying you this day, at this time, to love Him and to seek Him with your whole heart. God's Word will strengthen you. So, partake of His Word daily and let it dwell richly within you.

## UNITY AND DIVERSITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Our Heavenly Father wants us, the body of Christ, to be perfected in His love that He might bring about unity between His members (*Eph. 4:1-2*). As we are perfected in His love, we will be able to effectively and powerfully minister to others.

The body of Christ you see is one complete unit consisting of many parts (*1 Cor. 12:12*). The accomplishment of this miracle occurs only through the Holy Spirit baptizing us into this great body as new creations in Christ Jesus. Therefore, we are many different organs linked together through one Spirit, BY GOD'S LOVE.

God has designed this body so that we require each other's help. Anyone who can say, "I belong to Jesus" CANNOT say I don't need this ministry or that ministry because I don't belong to or believe as they do. God has placed and arranged the limbs and organs in His Body as He wished and saw fit, and where they were best suited. *1 Corinthians 12*, states that there is an absolute necessity for those parts of the body that appears or is considered to be weaker. He also stated that those parts are the very ones, which we invest with additional honor and He has

We must come into God's presence to receive all that He can give us.

He gives everything to us when we worship and praise Him; He gives Himself, His Love, His joy and His happiness. *Psalms 84:10-11* says, He "...gives "grace" and "glory" and NO good thing will He withhold."

THE KEY to getting God to respond is "lifting your hearts and raising your voice". *Psalms 22:3* says, He dwells in the holy place where praises are offered.

We have Jesus' promise in *John 14:21* that "...I will love him and manifest Myself to him." We know when we give, we receive. So GIVE, GIVE, by lifting your heart and voice unto Him.

When we are one with God we have no sadness; we have joy, happiness, peace, and prosperity.

We receive joy by praising His name. We receive all the blessings that He has for us by just LIFTING OUR VOICES UP HIGH, THROUGH THE WORDS OF OUR MOUTH; declaring the words from His Word, through the words of praise, and the words given you by Him. *Ps. 133*, tells us that when we are in unity, one accord, that is where God commands the blessing.

THE KEY is that we must lift our voices up loud, for it is in the praises of your mouth that we seek to be ONE with Him.

There is POWER in being ONE with God! Praise invokes the Spirit of Might (*Isa. 11:2*).

The things of the world ... they CAN trouble us, IF we allow them to. They give us sadness and distress. GOD GIVES US PEACE!

There is NOTHING too hard to move through praise to God. The joy and praises of His name on YOUR LIPS will MOVE AND CONSUME:

- Every ounce of DISTRESS (worry, pain and exhaustion)
- Every PROBLEM (perplexing question\situation)
- Every OBSTACLE (hindrance\obstruction that is in your way)



When we are one with God, in one accord, we have no sadness; we have joy, happiness, peace and prosperity. For *Psalms 16:11* says, "...in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand are pleasures forevermore."

We know that joy is a fruit of the recreated spirit. The fruit of joy grows from fellowshiping with God. *1 Jn. 1:3-4*, says, "...Truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you THAT your joy may be full. Jesus said, "At that day ye shall KNOW that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you." This is true unity, true Oneness.

*John 17:20-23- "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word (preaching); That they all may be one; as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest Me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one; I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."*

When we are born again, old things pass away and all things become new and all things are of God *II Cor. 5:17-18a*. We become new creations in Christ as we are baptized into Christ, And he that is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him (*I Cor. 6:17*).

When we were born again, we were created righteous (in right standing with God) and when we give Him thanksgiving and praise we enter into His presence (*Psalms 100*).

You see, GOD RESPONDS TO our confession of faith. Oneness is Jesus and us in one accord, agreeing on the same thing, saying the same thing. This oneness must be the goal of our individual lives.

When you praise His name, He is FULL of joy and happiness, conceived between you and He as one! He is filled with all that He can give you! (*Psalms 16:11 & Acts 2:28*)

proportioned this body, giving greater honor and richer endowment to the inferior parts, those that lack apparent importance. We may not all be apostles, prophets, teachers but WE ALL HAVE AND CAN CULTIVATE THE GREATEST AND BEST GIFT OF ALL, GOD'S LOVE.

### *Praying in the Spirit*

As we believe through the exercise of our faith in God's Love for us, we begin to see His body AS HE sees it. We begin to see its low places and its high places. We begin to feel its needs as He feels its needs and we begin to cry out, GOD WHAT IS GOING ON? HOW CAN I HELP? Then He reminds us the reason we feel these things IS WE TRULY ARE ONE WITH ONE ANOTHER AND WHEN ONE REJOICES WE REJOICE WITH HIM, WHEN HE WEEPS WE WEEP WITH HIM (*I Cor. 12:26*).

It is then when Christ, through His Holy Spirit, begins to make us realize that WHAT WE SAY AND DO, CAN AND DOES AFFECT THE REMAINDER OF THE BODY. He will always encourage us to do good, to love and bear up one another. Because this is a SPIRITUAL BODY, when one hurts, the Holy Spirit will place the BURDEN TO PRAY upon your spirit. You may not know what to pray for as you may feel you should, but you still should be obedient and pray. PRAY BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO KNOWS ALL AND SEES ALL. He will help you to pray accurately for your brothers and sisters who are in need. As we allow our spirit to be lifted UP by HIS HOLY SPIRIT into the spiritual realm, the Spirit of Christ in us, by the Holy Spirit, will make supplication through us and the needs of His body will be met.

YOU ARE IMPORTANT! You have a far greater role to play than you may realize; one that is better by far and is the highest of them all, THAT OF LOVING GOD'S BODY. For though we speak with tongues of even angels or prophecy great revelations or give all we have to the helping of the poor, if we do not have God's love IN us and WALK in it according to His Spirit, WE ARE NOTHING and WILL GAIN NOTHING. It is only when we look through HIS eyes that we can see what HE sees, the needs, hurts, and the triumphs.

### *Flowing as a Body*

The Body of Christ needs your love, faith and strength more now than ever before. There are NO unnecessary members in Christ's Body just as there are no unnecessary members in YOUR body. The only way in which we can accomplish

our obligation to the body of Christ is through the Spirit. The Holy Spirit created us to be one therefore He can cause us to FUNCTION as one. As we yield to the promptings of His Spirit, we will truly flow as the body of Christ, great power will be manifested, healings for hurts and divisions will come and the glory of God will be made known.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY IN MARRIAGE

The Glory of the man is the Woman, in that she honors and obeys his authority with her heart *I Cor. 11:7*. With the heart (spirit) the man will be able to produce the life of Christ within. If the woman does not honor with her lips AND her heart (spirit) then how can the MAN honor Christ with HIS WHOLE BEING with a breach in the spirit.

In as much as man and woman came together in the beginning to walk as ONE with their head (Christ Jesus), so are THEY to walk as one, whether they agree or not, in marriage (*Gen. 2:24*).

But as Christ is the head of the man, so ought the woman give the right answer to her head that he may glory in the lord and by the unity of the spirit, the woman will show forth her glory to the man, by her actions.

### *Deception's Role in Marriage (II Tim. 2:14-26)*

Many people want IMMEDIATE RESOLUTIONS to their problems, BUT do not want to accept the responsibility of the CREATION of the problem. Consequently they blame the other partner involved totally for their anxiety (*Gen 3:12*).

That misrepresentation is passed on to any and all of their acquaintances. To the extent that the individuals have covered their OWN sin (*Prov. 28:13*), DECEPTION sets in by the deceiver and they are held captive at his will. BUT, the CHRISTIANS have to RESTORE THEM IN LOVE. You must receive them as God's Creation and NOT as an unworkable mechanism that does not have movement. The mere fact that another person has problems is an indication for you to set your heart on that person as an AID to their distress, just as YOU seek out someone when YOU are in distress.

However, one who is GREATLY deceived does not know HOW to seek help for he is unaware of most of his actions.

Followers of people and that which is not of God, causes a breach in the Spirit of Counsel as they seek their instructions from EXPERIENCE, BY SIGHT and BY THE HEARING OF THEIR NATURAL EARS, INSTEAD OF BEING GUIDED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Comparing yourselves and measuring yourselves by one another is ASKING for deception because man is not judged by outward appearance (*II Cor. 10:7*). LET NO MAN JUDGE ANOTHER for HE will be judged with the SAME MEASURE (*Matt. 7:1-2*). Whatever you give, the same you receive. In some cases people give each other the same treatment, but one will do it in a more subtle way. REMEMBER, WHATEVER YOU SOW, THAT IS WHAT YOU REAP!

### *How to Rise Above Your Problems*

Rising above a situation IS WAITING ON GOD TO MINISTER TO YOU AND THE OTHER PERSON. Getting involved in STRIFE, talking it, allowing yourself to feel anxiety, PREVENTS you from RECEIVING the other person. The pain that is felt should be for the other person, NOT YOURSELF. For then YOUR feelings are involved and that will GENERATE FURTHER STRIFE.

LOVE covers a multitude of faults (i.e. is always trying to find a way to restore the other person *Prov. 17:9*). When YOU don't ACT IN LOVE, then you are passing by someone who is hungry for the Word (and does not know it) and you are passing by someone who is in pain and needs aid; and you are passing by someone who needs to be clothed with righteousness (brought in right standing with God).

For YOU, as a CHRISTIAN HAVE THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION (*II Cor. 5:18*).

## KEY TO ONENESS (UNITY) WITH GOD

When we enter into God's presence, we become one in the spirit with Him.

Oneness is Jesus and us together, in one accord. Oneness with God gives great joy and the joy of the Lord is our strength.