

SPIRITUAL UNITY: GOD'S PLAN—PLANK TWO, ONE SPIRIT (Cont.)

Paul's letter to the Christians of ancient Ephesus outlines God's seven plank platform for spiritual unity. The second plank, or point, in this plan is ONE SPIRIT, as observed in our previous article. Speaking of the Spirit in that article, we observed this:

“The Spirit referred to here is the Holy Spirit, the third person to whom the Scriptures attribute Godhood. Jesus, about to be taken from his apostles by death and eventually by his return to heaven, promised them they would not be abandoned (John 14:15-18). To the contrary, Jesus said, ‘These things I have spoken to you while being present with you,’ and then promised, ‘But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you’” (John 14:25-26).

The religious world of today's “Christendom” often conceives of the one Holy Spirit of God as having as many different slants on the gospel of Christ and as many varied personal messages for as many people as might be expecting one. Consequently, in this convoluted view of the Holy Spirit, he can be expected to provide a customized version of the gospel of Christ, and of the church of Christ, for each one's personal taste. Thus, if one desires a social gospel, he can expect to find a Spirit provided church that practices it. Or, if politics is his interest, there will be a church that satisfies it; a liberal one for liberals and a conservative one for conservatives. And then there are the light-hearted who care for none of those things who just want clean fun and entertainment—sure enough one can be found with a full schedule of such activities. Then there are those who expect divine guidance in everything from their choice of toothpaste to whether or not to get a flu shot. And all of this supplied by the one Holy Spirit of God for everyone on an individualized basis. (Ever notice that the Spirit seems to never tell such people anything they had not already decided to hear nor direct them to do anything they had not already made up their mind to do?)

To the contrary, there is ONE Spirit who, through the apostles of Christ, has ONE Revelation for all mankind—the truth of the gospel that testifies of Jesus as the Christ, the Savior of sinful man (John 15: 26-27; 16:12-14). This, dear friend, is the most important message you will ever hear. It is God's power to save you from sin and give you the hope of everlasting life (Romans 1:16-17).

—Jerry F. Bassett