

## Ephesians 4:1-16 **Call to Unity in Humility and Love – Gifts of the Spirit**

### **One Body, One Spirit, One Hope, One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God**

<sup>1</sup> I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, <sup>2</sup> with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

### **Diversities of Gifts**

<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore He says:

"When He ascended on high,  
He led captivity captive,  
And gave gifts to men."

### **One Ascended & Descended**

<sup>9</sup> (Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

### **Diversities of Gifts – Unity in the Body of Christ**

<sup>11</sup> And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

<sup>12</sup> for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

<sup>14</sup> that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, <sup>15</sup> but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ-- <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

### **One Body, One Spirit, One Hope, One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God** [\[Ephesians 4:1-6\]](#)

✚ Paul in prison for His ministry of the Gospel to the Gentiles, pleads with the Ephesian believers to live a life that demonstrates their claim to be Christians.

✧ "Christianity" which means "followers of Christ," is not something you claim, or try, but is a life you live that reflects the Life and teachings of Jesus Christ our Messiah.

✧ Either you believe that Jesus is Lord, Savior, and Judge which you demonstrate by your love and obedience toward His teachings, or you do not believe and demonstrate your disbelief in living like the world around you.

- ✧ If you are a true believer, you are expected to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called. [Ephesians 4:1, Luke 21:36]
- ✧ You do this with all lowliness (Humbleness), Gentleness, and Longsuffering (patience).
- ✧ You are patient bearing with one another in Love.
- ✧ Your goal is to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- ✧ Paul reminds us that There is one **body** and one **Spirit**, just as you were called in one **hope** of your calling; one **Lord**, one **faith**, one **baptism**; one **God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- ✧ In all these we are to be in unity of understanding and teaching.

#### Diversities of Gifts [Ephesians 4:7-8, 11]

- ✧ But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- ✧ The Gifts Christ gives us are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and are as diversified as the people who receive them, each given according to the measure of Christ's will. [Ephesians 4:7, 11, Romans 12:4-8, 1 Corinthians 12:4-30]
- ✧ Therefore He says:

"When He ascended on high,  
He led captivity captive,  
And gave gifts to men." [Ephesians 4:8] NKJV

Psalm 68:18

Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive: thou hast received gifts for men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them. KJV

#### One Ascended & Descended [Ephesians 4:9-10]

- ✧ (Now this, "He ascended"--what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)
- ✧ Christ descended to the lowest parts of the earth. [Ephesians 4:9, 1 Peter 3:18-20]
- ✧ Christ ascended far above all the heavens that He might fill all things.

#### Diversities of Gifts

- ✧ And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers.

#### Unity in the Body of Christ [Ephesians 4:12-16]

- ✧ Christ has a purpose for Spiritual Gifts given to men:
  - ✧ For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry.
  - ✧ For the edifying of the body of Christ.
- ✧ The goal of giftedness is to bring us to maturity in Christ:
  - ✧ Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.
  - ✧ To a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.
  - ✧ That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting.
  - ✧ But, speaking the truth in love, the Saints may grow up in all things into Him who is the head even Christ.

✧ From Christ the whole body is joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.