

1 Corinthians 1:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Analysis

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing (parakaleo de hymas, παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς)—The verb parakaleo (παρακαλέω, "to exhort, urge, beseech") is not harsh command but pastoral appeal. Paul invokes **the name of our Lord Jesus Christ** as the authority and motivation for unity—not his apostolic office or personal preference. **That ye all speak the same thing** (hina to auto legete pantes, ἵνα τὸ αὐτὸ λέγητε πάντες) does not mean uniformity of opinion on every detail but unity in the core gospel message and absence of divisive rhetoric.

That there be no divisions among you (me e en hymin schismata, μὴ ἡ ἐν ὑμῖν σχίσματα)—The noun schisma (σχίσμα, "division, tear, split") is the root of "schism." Paul uses the metaphor of a torn garment, echoing Jesus' seamless robe (John 19:23-24) as a symbol of church unity. **Be perfectly joined together** (katartismenoi, κατηρτισμένοι, "mended, restored, perfected") uses a medical term for setting a broken bone or a maritime term for mending nets—vivid images of restoration.

Historical Context

Paul now pivots from thanksgiving to confrontation. Reports from Chloe's household (v. 11) revealed that the Corinthian church was fracturing along party lines. This may have involved competition over rhetorical skill, theological sophistication, or loyalty to different founding leaders. In a city obsessed with status and eloquence, the church mirrored the culture rather than transforming it.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What is the difference between speaking "the same thing" (gospel unity) and enforcing uniformity on secondary matters?
2. How do modern church divisions mirror the Corinthian factions—personality cults, theological one-upmanship, rhetorical competition?
3. What does it mean to be "perfectly joined together" in mind and judgment while respecting conscience on disputable matters (Rom 14)?

Interlinear Text

Παρακαλῶ δὲ ὑμᾶς ἀδελφοί διὰ τοῦ ὄνόματος τοῦ
I beseech Now you brethren by G3588 the name G3588
G3870 G1161 G5209 G80 G1223 G3686

κυρίου ἡμῶν Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ ἵνα τὸ αὐτῆς λέγητε
Lord of our Jesus Christ that G3588 the same speak
G2962 G2257 G2424 G5547 G2443 G846 G3004

πάντες καὶ μὴ ἥτε ἐν ὑμῖν σχίσματα ἥτε
all and no that there be among you divisions that there be
G3956 G2532 G3361 G5600 G1722 G5213 G4978 G5600

δὲ κατηρτισμένοι ἐν τῷ αὐτῆς νοὶ καὶ ἐν τῇ
Now perfectly joined together among G3588 the same mind and among G3588
G1161 G2675 G1722 G846 G3563 G2532 G1722

αὐτῆς γνώμη
the same judgment
G846 G1106

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 12:25 (Parallel theme): That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.

Romans 12:16 (Parallel theme): Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

2 Corinthians 13:11 (Parallel theme): Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Psalms 133:1 (Parallel theme): Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Philippians 1:27 (References Christ): Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent,

I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

1 Corinthians 11:18 (Parallel theme): For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it.

1 Corinthians 4:16 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (References Christ): Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Romans 16:17 (Parallel theme): Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

Acts 4:32 (Parallel theme): And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

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