

One another Religion

Text: (John 13:34-35, Romans 12: 10.)

Introduction:

- 1- In the Bible we are introduced to a concept I call 'One another religion,' but how do we understand this from the biblical viewpoint?
- 2- In this lesson, want to set forth the idea that Jesus himself promoted, **the concept or principle** of, one-another religion. In our relationships in Christ we sustain relationships built upon such premise.
- 3- The question then is, what is 'one another religion?' The answer can be understood from the Jesus viewpoint and the many passages in New Testament.

4- The Basic command is "to love one another" John 13:34-35

- a- **Right here, laid out before the disciples, was a new FUNDAMENTAL COVENANT EMPHASIS.**
- b- **The two that we look at are;**
 - 1- **Members one of another. (Romans 12)**
 - 2- **Devoted and honor one another.**

Transition: In the New Testament, the phrase "one another" is repeatedly used and very often occurs in passages dealing with how the Church should function. The term translated as *one another* is from the Greek.

Excluding the Gospels and Acts, it appears about 60 times in the New Testament and, most often when it is used; it is in the form of a **directive to the members of the Church.**

Discuss:

- └ Members of one another. (Romans 12:10a).
 - A- Members one of another. (Romans 12:4-5).

- 1- Roman's is known as **the universal epistle** because it contains every vital doctrine to eternal life.
- 2- It teaches about the law, sin, repentance, baptism, the sacrifice of Christ, the destiny of humanity and godly living.
- 3- Thus, we see the two parts coming together **Doctrinal (1-11) and Practical (12-16).**

B- **In 12:4 Paul** uses the analogy of the human body to make a point as He did with **Ephesians 4**.

- 1- Our bodies are composed of many "members": legs, feet, torso, arms, hands, head, eyes, nose, ears, teeth and so forth.
- 2- Every member has a different function: the hands are for grabbing and manipulation, the eyes are for seeing, the teeth are for chewing and talking, the feet are for walking.

C- Now, let's make **the Spiritual application** from the analogy.

- 1- ***We are members of one another.*** The intent of what Paul is saying is that, **each member belongs** to all the other members of the Body, the Church. How profound is that.
- 2- **Romans 12:5** So we, numerous as we are, are one body in Christ (the Messiah) and individually we are parts of one another **[mutually dependent on one another(Amplified)]. N.B (1 Cor 12:12ff).**

Point one: Should be no preference or cliquishness in the Church.

Point two: Should have the same care for each other as we have for ourselves.

Point three: That ***we are members of one another*** is foundational, and everything else we examine rests on this premise.

If we do not accept that we belong to other Christians, and that other Christians belong to us, then there is no point in going any further with this subject.

But **we *must* accept** this point if we are to accept the Bible – this principle is ***foundational***.

II- Devoted to One another.

A- The next "one another" concept we come to is several verses further on in Romans 12 where Paul writes:

1-Romans 12:10 love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. (RSV).

2- Romans 12:10 *Be* kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another; (KJV).

3- Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. ..

B- Paul is using the analogy of the human family.

1- Here we see that brotherly love or affection between the flesh and blood members and children of the family. With this analogy, Paul is introducing us to the dimensions of relationships between Christians in the Body of Christ.

2- That is, **warmth, tenderness, concern, devotedness, loyalty, and so forth – in short, human emotions.**

3- - When we come into the church, which is the family of God, we will be able to relate to others with love and warmth, and be accepting as well as being accepted.

4- When we are secure, we will like others and enjoy being with them and we will like being in the family of God.

5- Relationships become meaningful, worship has purpose, and evangelism and reaching out to the lost together, gains a sense of urgency. **Christ in Us has real meaning and significance.**

C- Christianity is an "other-oriented religion". That is what Jesus Christ demonstrated to us.

1- He did not come to be ministered to. He came to minister. *Scripture*

2- And that is what we need to be doing as well. **If we are going to be devoted to one another in brotherly love, we are going to need to really reach out to each other, and in reaching out to others we are probably going to have to take a good look at the inside.**

3- It is each ones responsibility, along with other members of the Body of Christ to bring each person out of themselves so that we can grow to be mature Christians. Made more perfect in the Christ.

Conclusion:

1- We have looked at three thoughts this morning.

- a- That we have a religion that is an, “one another” religion.
- b- That in this we are members of one another.
- c- That we are to be devoted to one another.

2- Brethren, when we truly understand and adopt more perfectly the one another principle we take our relationship with Christ and our brethren to a new and more meaningful level.

Invitation: Where are you in your relationship with your brethren?

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Notes from E.Jones.