The Mistake of a Divided Body

**(1 Cor. 3:1-10, 21-23)**

# INTRODUCTION - Our Calling

**Song of Solomon 6:10; Matthew 16:17**;***Ephesians 5:27***; ***Acts 17:6****;*

# I. The Enemy Among Us

**1 Corinthians 3:3--***For ye are yet carnal: for whereas [there is] among you envying, and strife, and divisions,*

## A. Envying (competition)

**Romans 12:15***--Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.*

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## B. Strife

**Genesis 13:7** -- *there was strife between Abraham’s herdmen and Lot’s.*

It is telling of our own heart’s condition:

**Proverbs 10:12**--*Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins.*

Must be willing to get your hands dirty. (Jesus eating with publicans and sinners.)

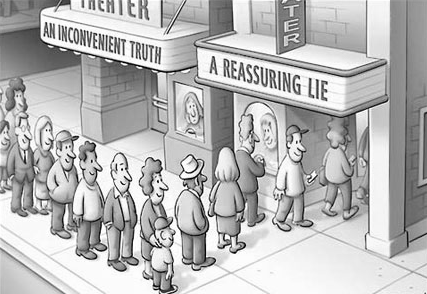
The only wisdom worth anything, can be found in the pages of God’s word. Be CHRISTIAN enough to solve our issues with God’s Word. ( James 3:17)

## C. Divisions (no communion, clicks, unwillingness to compromise)

“I am of Paul, I am of Apollos”.

Fellowship begins as a tender plant, but given the right care will grow strong enough to carry you.

The devil fears the “Gospel Exchange”.



# II. Roots of Disunity

## A. Spiritual Insecurity

We often surround ourselves with information that matches our beliefs.

## B. Priorities Out of Order

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## C. False Brethren

Preface to Psalm 34: “…When he [David] changed his behavior before Abimelech…”;

Proverbs 6:19; 1 Kings 18:17,18; 2 Chronicles 18:3

## D. Forgetting Our Bond

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**What is our bond? What brought us together?**

God makes connections with people: PROVIDENCE. We must FIGHT to maintain those connections.

**We belong to each other: Loyalty and Submission.**

## E. Losing Sight of the Mission

**Remember, the mission: SOULS.** In the military, the mission is king. For the Christian, the mission is the Gospel. Personal ambition must yield to the Gospel mission.

**James 4:1**--*From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?*

**1 Cor. 3:9--***For we are labourers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, [ye are] God’s building.*