

? Unity or Harmony ?

Unity has been a Christadelphian community goal ever since multiple fellowships began appearing in the late 19th century with the Renunciators promoting the concept of clean flesh, which is again finding a foothold in the Central Fellowship in the beginning of the 21st century. Is 'unity' the divinely correct pursuit? What is the cost of achieving unity... as opposed to requiring harmony? The developing frustration of continued failure in uniting separated Christadelphian fellowships is now promoting an increasing measure of toleration for doctrinal diversity in order to achieve this elusive and desperately sought social unity. The increasingly louder exhortation is to forfeit harmony with God in order to achieve social unity with each other... as if the love of each other should excel above the love of God.

Perhaps the question indicated in our title isn't really a choice. Could unity and harmony be synonyms, defining the exact same thing? No, they are as different as darkness and light. While we could legitimately define the fifty states of America as the United States, it would be ludicrous to refer to them as the Harmonious States of America. Unity is a concept limited to a respectful tolerance for differences while harmony eliminates all differences. Since unity and harmony are clearly not the same, then the next question should be if either, neither or both of these terms represent divine principles. Any divine principle would have to qualify as an 'eternal' principle. Therefore it should be clear that only 'harmony' could qualify as a divine principle. Unity is an understanding that presumes a respectful tolerance without harmony, more in line with the evil of democracy than the divine intention for creation. Following the third and last resurrection, judgment and immortalization in the divine plan we know that everything that is not in complete harmony with our Creator's righteousness will cease to exist. All diversity will be completely eliminated. Following the elimination of that last enemy, our Creator will be all and in all (1 Cor. 15:28). Harmony with our Creator is the eternal plan, not a toleration based unity. Unity is the flesh-treasured foundation for democracy and a peace based on the absence of conflict. Harmony is the spirit treasured foundation for a divine peace based on the presence of complete agreement. Unity and harmony are as different as night and day.

The principle of harmony is actually a miraculous process that is subtly embedded in the terms of creation exclusively for the benefit of the enlightened with eyes to see, which is a premise that can be scientifically demonstrated. Therefore it is harmony with our Creator that should be our primary personal, family, Ecclesial and Brotherhood goal. Unity is only a partial goal that satisfies the seductive deliberations of the deceitful human heart. Unity reverses the emphasis for pursuing divine harmony to just getting along with each other. Our community fellowship status becomes the goal that replaces our Creator's harmony when mere unity is the target.

Can Unity Prevent Harmony?

The next significant question appears to be whether or not the pursuit of a tolerant unity among the enlightened community could actually have the capacity to contradict the

pursuit of harmony with our Creator. That answer is really quite simple (at least academically, but certainly not emotionally), as we have a number of defining precedents in scripture to assure a confident conclusion. The enlightened brotherhood was united in their decision to return to Egypt to beg Pharaoh for their slavery reinstatement following the spies promised land report. Joshua and Caleb were the only men of war conspicuously outside that Brotherhood unity. An additional confirmation would be that out of the more than 3,000,000 within the enlightened, covenant-related community following the ascension of Jesus Christ to the right hand of his Father, only a mere 120 of them waited at Jerusalem during Pentecost as instructed, to receive the promise of the Holy Spirit. The enlightened Brotherhood was united again, with just a very tiny splinter faction pursuing harmony with Yahweh at the expense of unity with the enlightened community. Brotherhood unity certainly does have the capacity to contradict the primary goal or harmony with our Creator.

Amplifying the personal significance of these two precedents is that these two highlighted generations are direct parallels to our own particular generation. Those two were the appointed transition generations from one divinely appointed educational 'age' into another. The introduction of a new age is easily defined by a combination of three components:

1. There is a change in divine law, maturing the divine educational progression of the enlightened community.
2. There is a change in the divinely appointed priesthood.
3. There is a dramatic public outpouring of miraculous divine power to validate these mandated changes. This last feature escalates significantly with each age transition.

Our generation is prophetically identified to serve as the third transition generation in the divine plan, exiting the Ecclesial Age and entering the Millennial Kingdom Age. Just like the two generations noted above: divine laws will change; the priesthood will therefore have to change and there will be an even greater outpouring of divine power to validate these mandated changes. Our generation has been identified by witnessing the prophesied herald: the resurrection of the national firstborn son of God... at least in the first 'political' stage prophetically projected as the reconstruction of lifeless bodies on a valley floor from dried out bones (Ezek. 37:1-14). This assigned herald identifying the generation to witness our Messiah's triumphant return is also projected through the fig tree blossoming as it exits the death of winter into the rebirth of spring (Matt. 24:32-34) as well as the favoring of the dust of Zion (Ps. 102:13-18), indicating a rest from the curse of the dust.

Having Eyes But Not Seeing

Oddly, the bracing clarity and power of such observations are frequently insufficient to overcome an opposing community-based paradigm. That brotherhood unity within the wilderness Ecclesia, seeking a return to slavery, had to be shattered by a divine death sentence that was modified on the basis of Moses' prayer, the man these Brethren intended to assassinate (Num. 14:20). Additionally, the brotherhood unity demonstrated in rejecting their Messiah resulted in the divinely appointed dissolution of the nation of Israel by the Romans. The Sanhedrin (the leading Brethren of the enlightened

community) actually admitted Jesus of Nazareth could bring the dead back to life before they agreed that they should orchestrate his assassination (John 11:46-50). Therefore, it is without doubt that a Brotherhood unity has the capacity to contradict the greater and exclusively legitimate goal of harmony with our heavenly Father.

The Power of Harmony

The dramatic differences between a divinely legitimate harmony and an illegitimate unity can be highlighted through various avenues of consideration. It is the difference between the loving relationship of a husband and wife as opposed to the lustful relationship of a man and woman who are not married to each other. One (marriage) demonstrates harmony while the other (fornication/adultery) only demonstrates unity. It is harmony that is the foundation and procedure for establishing a family while the mere lustful unity of a man and woman can only produce a bastard child. Therefore it shouldn't be surprising that the laws of the Kingdom of God forbid an illegitimate child from entering the congregation of Yahweh (Deut . 23:2). The difference between harmony and unity is also the difference between complimentary and perfectly timed musical notes as opposed to simply indiscriminate sounds issuing from musical instruments at the same time and place. It is the difference between the symphony performance (harmony) and the musicians independent warm up when all the instruments unite their sounds simultaneously (unity) but without any attempt at blending them harmoniously. The difference between harmony and unity is the difference between a fresh baked loaf of bread and merely a bowl full of the ingredients offering that harmonious potential (the flour, salt, eggs, yeast and water).

The Physics of Harmony

Society's concept of synergy is indicative of the unique potential of harmony. Synergy is defined as a harmonious blending of components creating a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts. Synergy demonstrates a **compounding** of combined independent values. The tolerant divergent nature of mere 'unity' prevents the exponential multiplication of the independent value of the components constituting a merely 'united' whole. It is the perfect harmonious blending of the "whole's" components that defies logic and scientific reason by offering a compounded value that is exponentially greater than the sum of the harmoniously blended individual components.

- The V formation of flying birds allows them to fly twice as fast as each individual fowl could fly separately, due to the resulting combined updraft of the wing flapping. The birds can fly much further using the same energy due to the harmony of their efforts, as opposed to flying merely as a 'united' but unsynchronized flock.
- A machine generating 60,000 pounds per square inch of pressure (PSI) can break a bar of iron. A bar of chromium of the same dimensions will break at 70K PSI. A similar bar of nickel will break at 80K PSI. Logic would suggest that combining the three components would either present a breaking point of 60,000 PSI (the least strength of the three combined components of the whole... on the reasoning basis of a chain being only as strong as its weakest link) or the combined strength of the three, being 210,000 PSI. The miracle of harmony actually compounds those harmonized components to a strength level of 300,000 PSI. The whole is greater than the sum of the parts. That miraculous additional 90K PSI is the result of the divine principle of harmony, which is a feature of creational design and certainly not

an evolutionary accident. The miracle of harmony's compounded value demonstrates a divine principle.

Harmony and God Manifestation

Harmony is the key feature of the principle of God manifestation, that linch-pin principle that separates the enlightened from the unenlightened throughout all generations. At the conclusion of the seven divine days of 1,000 years each (Ps. 90:4; 2 Pet. 3:8) the Creator will remove every challenge to a perfect divine harmony throughout creation in order to achieve a complete harmony with everything that exists. There will be no unity based on a respect for divergent understandings or physical conditions. Mere unity of the enlightened brotherhood should **never** be our goal. The only legitimate and enduring goal has to be harmony with our Creator. As scripture demonstrates, unity among the enlightened brotherhood does not necessarily satisfy the goal of harmony with our Creator and can easily contradict that primary goal. Unity is a false goal generated by our deceptive human hearts, which is the throne of the serpent frame of reference.

The significant difference between the concepts of unity and harmony can be powerfully demonstrated in the opposing flesh vs. spirit definitions of the supposedly simple word 'peace'. Peace is obviously a very significant theme in divine communications. However, the Spirit defines peace in exactly the opposite way that the flesh defines the concept of peace. The Spirit defines peace as the presence of harmony.

Eph. 2:14-15 *For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, **so making peace***

The flesh defines peace as a divergent but tolerant unity, based on an absence of disturbance or an absence of hostility. The spirit defines peace as a presence while the flesh defines peace as an absence. The children of men illegitimately presume that when two nations are not militarily battling each other then they are at peace. That presumption is highly disrespectful to the Creator's principle of peace.

Creational Confirmation

The spirit's definition of peace, identified by the presence of harmony, is validated in the terms of creation, what the sons of men disrespectfully redefine as simply 'nature'. The flesh's definition of peace, dependent on the absence of aggression or disturbance, is scientifically contradicted by the terms of creation. Every positive divine principle projected through the terms of creation employs a positive and real feature of creation, as opposed to an absence.

- The creational feature of light identifies our Creator, His son and the saints (1 Jn 1:5; John 8:12; Matt. 5:14). Light is real. It can be created, measured and has substance. Darkness has no reality. Darkness is merely the absence of light. Darkness cannot be created. It simply defines the absence of light.
- Heat sustains and promotes life. We employ heat for many positive benefits. We can create, control and measure heat. Heat is real. Cold is merely the absence of

heat. This is the foundational understanding of the science of refrigeration. We cannot create cold. We can only remove heat. Cold is merely an absence.

- Life is real. A husband and wife can create a new life. Life can be measured. Death is merely the removal of life. Death has no independence from life, but simply defines the absence of a previous life. Life is a presence while death is an absence.

Creation Testifies That Peace Cannot Be an Absence

Creation's intelligent design demonstrates divine principles, from the vastness of the universe right down to atomic structure. The glory of that revelation is currently veiled but will soon saturate Earth as completely as the waters cover the sea. Peace cannot legitimately be understood as an absence, as the children of men presume. Peace has to be a presence in order to qualify as a divine and therefore eternal principle. Understanding peace as merely the absence of disturbance and aggression (unity), inappropriately exalts disturbance and aggression to the default condition, with peace being nothing but the absence of the supposedly real, natural and standard condition of disturbance and aggression. That 'absence' understanding is highly disrespectful to the Creator's perspective. Our Creator knows that complete harmony is what is real and eternal, with the temporary conditions of disturbance, violence, aggression being merely the absence of peace.

That absence of a peaceful harmony began with the introduction of sin into a previously "very good" creation almost 6,000 years ago. Upon the elimination of sin (and therefore death, which cannot exist separate from sin) all real and potential contradictions to the righteousness of our heavenly Father will be eliminated. Peace (the presence of harmony) will define everything that exists... everything that is real, everything that is not an absence. In compliance with the physics of harmony, that presence of complete and unchallenged harmony produces an eternity of life as well as a quality of life that mere mortals like ourselves cannot conceive (Is. 64:4; 1 Cor. 2:9). The resulting value of that level of harmony is beyond our current comprehension.

The Prophetic Nature of the Physics of Harmony

Just as the annual spring rebirth prophesies of the divine promise of resurrection and renewed life... just as the science of agriculture prophesies the three planned creational harvests (immortalization events) in the divine plan... and just as the daily ritual of sleeping, awakening and getting dressed confirm the promise of resurrection from the dead and the atonement (covering) of immortality... so creation's miracle of compounded synergistic value realized in the blending of components into a harmonious whole resulting in exponential value prophesies of the final stage of the divine plan when an unchallenged and complete harmony produces value far beyond our current capacity to understand or appreciate.

The Removal of Contradictions As Opposed to Respecting Diversity

This divine elimination of all that contradicts the presence of harmony is another powerful distinction between the legitimate goal of harmony as opposed to the illegitimate goal of a mere unity. Unity presumes a toleration of diversity and not the elimination of an intolerable diversity. The practice of withdrawing fellowship to

encourage the recognition of a distinct absence of respect for our God's righteousness is an example of the pursuit of harmony with Yahweh as opposed to unity among Brethren. The Apostle Paul delivered Hymenaeus and Alexander to satan (disfellowshipped them) to educate them concerning blasphemous behavior and teachings (1 Tim. 1:19-20). Paul advises Timothy to separate himself from Brethren who do not teach correct doctrine (1 Tim. 6:3-5). Toleration of serious challenges to the pursuit of harmony with our God cannot be redefined as any form of acceptable love. That would inappropriately invert the love of man above the love of God. They are not the same at all. We all know there are a variety of loves in our lives that have to be balanced to avoid chaos and sorrow. We have to love our wife or husband more than our parents. We love our children more than our parents. We love our family more than our neighbors and mankind in general. Love is not equal. Equality is a fleshly myth generated by our deceitful hearts. This is why there is a descending set of standards for the three great divine love laws. We are commanded to love Yahweh our Elohim with all our heart and strength and mind and life, with every fiber of our being (Deut. 6:4-5). Christ's new commandment, introduced at the last supper, required a love for the enlightened brotherhood that was greater than self-love (John 13:34-45; 15:12-13,17; Gal. 6:2,10). The third love commandment (although it was second chronologically) required an even lesser standard of love (Lev. 19:18). We are commanded to love our neighbors, but only have to love them **as-much-as** ourselves. This is the lowest of the three love standards. We are not asked to love our neighbors more than ourselves, as is required for the enlightened brotherhood. We are required to love our Brothers and Sisters more than ourselves but less than our heavenly Father. When we begin imbalancing our various loves, disaster follows. If we love our parents or our children more than our husband or wife, disaster is insured. If we love our neighbor as much as we love our Brothers and Sisters, we are contradicting Yahweh's and Christ's instructions... to our own peril. Avoiding the necessity to remove serious challenges to the goal of harmony with our Creator based on a claim of love motivation demonstrates an imbalancing of these tiered love commandments.

Refusing to respect the necessity for removing components of a whole that contradict the principle of harmony is the symptom of an imbalanced and heart generated respect for unity above the divine principle of harmony. It is ungodly to promote brotherhood unity at the expense of the divine principles of truth and behavioral righteousness. Harmony with our Creator should never be sacrificed to pursue a tolerant unity among the enlightened community. That is a reversal of properly balanced priorities. Demoting our Creator in our hearts and minds beneath ourselves and each other is the defining and common feature in all forms of apostasy.

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