

## “One Another”

- This phrase is used in scripture for a total of about 46 times in 39 verses: 9 times in a negative sense, 35 times in the positive, 1 in a neutral and 1 in a figurative sense.

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### Negative

Mat 24:10 And then shall many be offended, and shall **betray one another**, and shall **hate one another**.

- Jesus is here speaking to His twelve disciples, later apostles, about the then coming destruction of Jerusalem and end of the Mosaic dispensation. He told them then that even before this event His followers would betray each other for the sake of saving their own skins which would expose their true selfish nature. Their hatred for each other would be evident because of it and such would continue throughout the history of the church.

Gal 5:15 But if ye **bite and devour one another**, take heed that ye be not **consumed** (*Gk.355- to use up, that is, destroy*) **one of another**.

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- The apostle Paul later speaks of his past concerning his attitude and when writing to Titus he warned of their not wanting to suffer because of it, as he obviously did.

Tit 3:2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men. 3 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, *and* **hating one another**.

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Gal 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. 26 Let us not be desirous of vain (*empty*) glory (*Gk.2755- self conceited. [Webster: 1. an exaggerated opinion of oneself]*), **provoking** (*Gk.4292- to call forth to oneself [challenge], that is, [by implication] to irritate*) **one another, envying** (*Gk.5354- to be jealous of*) **one another**.

- Isn't it so sad that Paul would even have to pen such a letter as this to a congregation of the Lord's people. Sadly too, is the fact that this hasn't been adhered to by many of the Lord's people today. So many Christians will understand someday, when it'll be too late, that how we treat each other now will be a factor in where we will spend eternity. If we can't get along here surely one, the other or both will miss the opportunity to get along there.

Rom 14:10 But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought (*Gk.1848- contemptible, despise, least esteemed*) thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written, *As I live*, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God. 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. 13 Let us not therefore **judge one another** anymore: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in *his* brother's way.

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- Sometimes there are occasions where brethren cannot come to an agreement and will bring the secular system of law in so as to make judgment between them. Although

Demetrius wasn't a Christian, he was told to bring whatever matter he had against the saints at Ephesus to court in order to make a **lawful** judgment. But the lesson also applies to the saints who have matters against each other. If a dispute arises let the brethren of least esteem in the church make the decision on the matter before taking it to a secular court which would make a mockery of the faith and could cause a fellow saint to stumble.

*Act 19:38* Wherefore if Demetrius, and the craftsmen which are with him, have a matter against any man, the law is open, and there are deputies: let them **implead** (*Gk.1458- to call in [as a debt or demand], that is, bring to account [charge, criminate, etc.]: - accuse, lay to the charge*) **one another**.

*1Co 6:4* If then ye have judgments of **things pertaining to this life**, set them to judge who are **least esteemed** in the church. *5* I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren? *6* But brother goeth to law with brother, and that before the unbelievers. *7* Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law **one with another**. Why do ye not rather take wrong? why do ye not rather *suffer yourselves to be defrauded?*

- Why do we so often think justice is served when we go to court over something that will perish anyway? LACK OF FAITH!

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Positive

- Of the 35 times that the phrase "one another" is used in the positive, 13 of those are used with regard to "loving" one another. Here in **John 13** Jesus uses the phrase twice in the same verse with regard to the new commandment.

*Joh 13:34* A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another**; as I have loved you, that ye also **love one another**.

- Earlier in the same chapter He washed His disciples feet thus giving them an example on how they were to serve each other with humility.

*Joh 13:14* If I then, *your* Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to **wash one another's** feet. *15* For I have given you **an example**, that ye should do as I have done to you.

- To do something so lowly would give a person a greater appreciation for others who do such and would also bring them into a more intimate relationship with the one who is being served. (*A CNA often makes a better LPN because of their experiences.*)

*Gal 5:13* For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty (*Gk.1657- freedom*); only *use* not liberty for an occasion (*Gk.874- an opportunity*) to the flesh (**Rom 6:1-4**), but by love **serve one another**. *14* For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. (*Would I envy myself? ...lie to myself? ...etc.*)

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*Rom 12:10* Be **kindly affectionate** (*Gk.5387- fraternal towards fellow Christians*) **one to another** with brotherly love; in honour **preferring** (*Gk.4285- to lead the way for others, that is, show deference. [Webster: 1. a yielding in opinion, judgment, etc. 2. courteous respect]*) **one another**; (*Let someone else have a say!*)

- Did you ever know of someone who seemed to **always** want to have things their own way? Some people, even brethren, have to have the last word in everything and show no affection toward others in doing so and are unforgiving to boot.

Eph 4:32 And be ye kind **one to another**, tenderhearted, **forgiving one another**, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Col 3:13 **Forbearing** (*Gk.430- to hold oneself up against, that is, [figuratively] put up with*) **one another**, and **forgiving one another**, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also *do* ye.

- Not only are we to **not** hold grudges, we are to tolerate each other's "*annoyances*" and, as Jesus said in **Mat 18:22**, forgive each other as often as asked. And **on top of all this**, we are to support each other and carry each other's load from time to time. But for what reason?

Eph 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, **forbearing one another** in love; 3 Endeavoring to **keep the unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

- We put up with each other, we carry each other and we forgive each other for the purpose of keeping the church that Jesus died for **tightly knit together** for Him for when He returns.

Luk 18:8 ... Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?

Eph 5:27 That He might present it (*her*) to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it (*she*) should be holy and without blemish.

Gal 6:2 **Bear ye one another's burdens**, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

- The law of Christ:

Joh 13:34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye **love one another**; as I have loved you, that ye also **love one another**.

- And part of fulfilling that law we are to gently warn other Christians when they are nearing a very dangerous situation. To warn someone is to love them. If we don't do so then we can't say we love them. They may not heed the warning but at least we showed them how much we love them and are concerned for their eternal souls.

Heb 12:6 For whom the Lord loveth He chastens (*Gk.3811- educate, discipline*),...

Rom 15:14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to **admonish** (*Gk.3560- to put in mind, that is, [by implication] to caution or reprove gently*) **one another**.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; **teaching and admonishing one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

- And that admonishing can be done through such a divine way as singing together. It's just amazing how **God** can warn us in such a gentle way as in making music in our hearts (*minds*). How many times has the singing part of worship warned you of certain things?

1Th 5:11 Wherefore comfort (*Gk.3870- to call near, that is, invite, invoke [by consolation]*) yourselves together, and **edify** (*Gk.3618- to be a house builder, that is, to construct or [figuratively] confirm:-edify, embolden*) **one another**, even as also ye do.

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- When **Paul** wrote to the **Thessalonians** he always seemed to encourage them by way of a compliment: "even as also ye do". But part of the admonishing process has to do with keeping each other on our toes. Humbly reminding someone about their lack of attendance, even though they might become annoyed by it, is another way of showing that **Christ**-like love that we have for them. We seem to have to get some brethren to the point of being excited to be in the assembly. But how close do we keep an eye on especially those weaker brethren?

Heb 10:24 And let us **consider** (*Gk.2657- to observe fully*) **one another** to provoke (*Gk.3948- excitement [to good]*) unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but **exhorting** (*Gk.3870- to call near, that is, invite, invoke [by imploration]*) **one another**: and so much the more, as ye see the day (*speaking here of the first day of the week for worship*) approaching.

*Heb 3:13 But **exhort one another daily**, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*

- It's interesting to note that comfort and exhort are the same word in the **Greek**. **Christ** will return someday, we know not when, but even if **He** doesn't return in our lifetime, we need to be ready for that day as well. In the meantime how we care for each other and what we do for each other on an almost daily basis is important, no matter how long into the future **He** comes.

1Th 4:9 But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to **love one another**. 10 And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more; 11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you; 12 That ye may walk honestly toward them that are without, and *that* ye may have lack of nothing. 13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring (*back to Heaven*) with Him. 15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 18 Wherefore **comfort one another** with these words.

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- Some do not count the cost of discipleship. Just when we think we've done our fair share, there's more to be done. How we treat each other in the way we console each

other in the brotherhood and how we continue to build each other up will determine a huge part in our being accepted into that heavenly home.

**Rom 15:5** Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be **likeminded one toward another** according to Christ Jesus: **6** That ye may with one mind *and* one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. **7** Wherefore **receive** (*Gk.4355- to take to oneself, that is, admit [to friendship or hospitality]*) **ye one another**, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.

**Rom 16:16** **Salute one another** with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.

- Greeting each other **then** was with a kiss on the cheek (*as is a common practice in many cultures today*). Today we greet each other with a handshake, a hug or a combination of both. When it's between brethren it has a more spiritual, tender meaning to it, as was Paul's intention to those brethren then.

**1Co 16:20** All the brethren greet you. **Greet ye one another** with an holy kiss.

*2Co 13:12* **Greet one another** with an holy kiss.

**1Pe 5:14** **Greet** (*Gk.782- to enfold in the arms*) **ye one another** with a kiss (*Gk.5370- fil'-ay-mah, from 5370-to be a friend to, that is, have affection for; specifically to kiss [as a mark of tenderness]*) of charity (*Gk.26- love, that is, affection or benevolence*). Peace *be* with you all that are in Christ Jesus. Amen.

- As Peter said then, so say we now. Embrace one another with the love that Christ gives to all that are in Him. Amen.

Hear: **Romans 10:17** ..."faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Believe: **Heb 11:6** ..."for he that commeth to God must believe that He is"...

Repent: **Lk 13:3** ..."except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Confess: **Mat 10:32** "Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him will I confess before My Father which is in Heaven."

Be baptized: **Acts 2:38** ..."repent and be baptized...in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins"...

Remain faithful: **Rom 6:4** ..."even so we also should walk in newness of life."

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