

## **Eph 4:4-6 ‘Maintaining Unity – One Faith, Baptism, God & Father**

- In understanding the divine essence of unity we must begin with the Trinity
- Each person in the Trinity performs a significant role in the church
- There are seven ones that all relate to the vital work of the trinity in the church
- “One Holy Spirit” related to One Body and One Hope. “One Lord” related to One Faith and One baptism. “One God & Father” over all, in all, & through all

### **I. Unity in One Faith**

- **One faith** is in connection with One Lord: One Lord, One Faith One Baptism
- Paul doesn’t place one faith with the Spirit or the Father but with the Lord Jesus
- One faith does not mean agreement in every single area or detail of doctrine
- It refers to the very essence of the Gospel with which we have been entrusted
- It refers to justification, this is not only one faith, but also the only faith
- It's not a detailed list of theological points, it's this one Gospel to which we hold
- It is not something which men do but what God has done: This is Christianity
- This faith we preach is that our salvation is all the action of God through Jesus
- That is why one faith follows one Lord- The Lord was sent to us by the Father

### **II. Unity in One Baptism**

- **One baptism** shows the inevitability of unity among true Christians
- It is brought into the scope of unity because of what it represents & signifies
- Initiation into the church, an outward declaration, I am of Christ, not the world
- We acknowledge One Lord, One Master, we are in His redeemed community
- We have died to our former life, we are following our Lord, we are His people
- No longer guided by our wills, we follow Christ: One Baptism leads to unity

### **III. United in and through One God and Father**

- Vs 6 completes the apostle's great statement which he started in verse 4
- It climaxes what Paul began with the words: keep the unity in the bond of peace
- Paul gives them seven reasons or motivations for eagerly guarding this unity
- 1<sup>st</sup> – The Holy Spirit: One body, One Spirit, One hope of your calling
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – The Son- One Faith, One Lord, One Baptism
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – One God and Father of all, who is over all, through all, and in all
- Ephesian believers must remember how the Trinity works in our Salvation