

Sept. 20, 1979 Scriptural Unity

- 1 John 17 Unity and Diversity  
Mystery of Divine Unity  
Alternating emphasis in the first three centuries A.D.
- 2 Four great church councils  
Col. 1/24-27 Eph. 5:5-7  
  
Kinds of divisions among men: national, racial, sexual  
  
Mistake of assuming another person is a fine Christian
- 3 All believers together constitute the body of Christ  
The unity of all true believers  
Illustration of the human body  
Each ~~xxx~~ member has its function in the whole
- 4 Unity and autonomy  
  
Woman who told a man, The Lord has revealed to me that you are to marry me. He said, He'd have revealed it to me too.  
  
Each has duty to help others make fullest use of their potentials
- 5 Roman Catholics (St. Francis, St. Benedict, St. Ignatius)  
once frowned on by the church are now much honored  
  
Man who worked with Navigators and then reacted against them so that now he says God only works thru the local church  
  
Leader in local church can be autocratic too
- 6 Value in organizations  
Limitations of organizations  
Reactions against denominational organizations  
  
And organization is like a hoe: can be used rightly or wrongly  
  
We have autonomy before the Lord and unity with true believers
- 7 The Lord's glory comes first  
May be some we can't work with but that doesn't mean we should oppose them. cf. Paul and Barnabas  
Large Baptist church in Texas always having a conflict within it  
Two students who in seminary were always knocking each other but are now standing together
- 8 Importance of the areas of disagreement affecting our working together.