

## UNITY or UNIFORMITY

By Daniel Mace

The disunity of the Body of Christ is a scandal that robs us of the full blessing of God and undercuts our testimony to the lost. Men of genuine apostolic heart have a burden to see God's people come together as a united family and army. They see an overview of the universal church around the world and can sense the heartbeat of what the Lord is speaking. The vision is sorely needed in the church today, and only men of apostolic insight and authority can bring it about in a significant way."

Since the new paradigm definition of "unity" is simply agreement on *subjective* paranormal experiences, and not doctrinal truth, any unity they produce can only be a counterfeit. The very fact that these people think the way to produce true unity is to impose a pyramid-style government on the Church, shows that they have absolutely no idea what true spiritual unity is all about. The apostle Paul gave us the highest revelation of spiritual unity in his analogy of the human body (1 Cor 12). He used the operation of the human body as an *illustration* of the body of Christ. So consider the *unity* of the human body. Your toes never get near your face, yet they both function in perfect harmony. Your nose never gets near your liver, yet they function in perfect harmony. The unity that exists between the various members of your *physical* body is not a unity of proximity. It is based on one thing—that each member is where it is supposed to be, and that each one *does* what it is supposed to do. It is the same with the body of Christ. Unity is based on whether or not we are where we are supposed to be, and doing what we are supposed to be doing. It depends entirely on whether or not we are truly submitting to the Head. If the Holy Spirit is leading you, and you are *obeying* the Holy Spirit, you are in perfect unity with every other member of the body of Christ doing the same thing. It is immaterial whether you ever see them, talk to them, or even know them. To be brought to the unity of the faith, all that is necessary, is that each and every member of the body of Christ learns how to be totally "led by the Spirit." Spiritual unity has *nothing* to do with religious groups joining ranks with others, or getting everyone into close physical proximity of each other, or all coming under the same kind of ministry, or becoming part of the same denomination or organization. Spiritual unity and division are *not issues of our relationship with each other*. They are issues *of our relationship with the Head*.

When you are walking in absolute obedience to Jesus Christ you *cannot* be divided from other saints who are doing likewise, it is impossible. But when we begin walking in disobedience, not only is the unity between the Head and us broken, but also the unity between us, and those who are still walking in obedience is also broken. If you are a "big toe" in the body of Christ, and you stop being led by the Head, and obeying the Head—guess what? Even though you are still connected to the "little toe" right next to you, you are no longer in unity with it. We can live in the same house, go to the same church, believe exactly the same doctrines, pursue exactly the same religious goals, and all the rest of it; this will

not stop us from becoming divided because spiritual unity does not rest on *any* of these things. *It rests on being led by, and obeying the Spirit.*