

# Unity, Not Uniformity

by Theodore Epp

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*The sermon emphasizes the importance of unity in the Christian community while respecting individual differences in thought and approach to faith.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 133, Romans 14:19, Philippians 2:1-5, Colossians 2:6-10

**Topics:** "Christian Fellowship", "Unity in Diversity"

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## Description

Theodore Epp emphasizes that the Christian life is defined by the presence of Christ within believers rather than strict adherence to rules and regulations. He explains that being 'likeminded' does not mean conforming to a single way of thinking, but rather pursuing common goals while embracing individual perspectives. Epp encourages believers to focus on unity through Christ, fostering peace and mutual edification among diverse members of the body of Christ.

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## Transcript

Philippians 2:1-5; Psalm 133

The Christian life is not a stereotyped life composed of rules and regulations. It may involve rules and regulations, but the Christian life is essentially the presence of Christ in the believer. This is why Paul said, "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, having been firmly rooted and now being built up in Him and established in your faith, just as you were instructed, and overflowing with gratitude. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ. For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority" (Col. 2:6-10, NASB).

It should also be remembered that the minds of different believers are not to be pressed into a single mold of thinking--this is not what is meant by being "likeminded" (Phil. 2:2). Rather, God imparts to us the matchless mastermind of Christ, so each believer will be a distinct person in himself. Believers will be likeminded inasmuch as they will seek to reach similar goals, but they will not each seek the same way, and they may not always agree as to how a particular goal can best be reached.

"Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another" (Rom. 14:19).

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Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/theodore-epp/unity-not-uniformity/>

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