4/17/73

-11-

Divine Relations

duce modernist g teaching into groups all over the world. And each of these little groups was struggling against the attempts from the West, to lead them away from the truth of God. But surely they could struggle more strongly if they at least had more knowledge of what each other was doing, and more realization that they were equally members of the Body of Christ.

New JESUS SAID. If your hand offend you pluck it off and east it from you. It is better to enter into life maimed than having all your members to be cast into hell. If your hand is inflected, if your toe is infection, you may have to cut it off that is true. But sometimes we find a foot that feels that all the rest of the body is inflected and thinks it should have nothing to do with any of the rest of the body. It separates itself from all the rest of the body, and that is a serious error which we should avoid. We must remember the unity of the Body of Christ. In every tongue, in every nation and particularly in whatever nation we happen to live with -- that all who truly belong to the Lord are one body. Eph. 4 brings this out very clearly, where he calls on us vs 3 - "Endeavoring to keep the unity of theSpirit in the bonds of peace." There is one body and one spirit even as you are called in one hope of your calling. One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is above all and through all and in you all." The unity of theBody of Christ is stressed in the S'ripture but how we as human beings do tend to break up this unity. How we tend to make artifical barriers that God has not made. We find that even within the local church we find the tendency often to have great feelings of differences with others which become much stronger than the love that toward them as true believers that we should have. People get all excited about varieties of clothing, and varities of hair style. Surely these are matters in on which one should see what is the ba habit or custom of the time. And within the general area of what is accepted as custom certainly we have no right to judge our brothers inthis regard. Of course if you are going to serve in a particular church where they believe that everybody should have long hair and a beard, it would be ridiculous for your to insist that you have a right not to have long hair or not to have a beard. It is feelish to set little things like this in the way of people being willing to accept us and to listen to us hear the word of God from us. We should be expedient in such matters