

Today those two men are standing absolutely together. Just as if there was no difference between them that was important at all. But at that time they had this attitude as if their differences were so tremendously important.

I have often said, If a man agrees with me in 30 75% of matters, he and I can work together. I can work with a man who agrees with me that much. Don't look for a man who agrees with you 100%-- you won't find him! Not in you are a human being! You won't find agreement. Of course, if he's just a parrot you can. But I don't think God usually uses parrots.

But no two human beings are going to agree exactly together. If a person and I agree in 75% of matters (that matter) and we both are willing to agree that the other 25% is less important and we will avoid clashes over that other 25% we can work together, for the Lord's service. But I've known cases where a person would agree with me 95% of things, and he thought that 5% was so important he had to be pushing it, and stressing it, and we could not work together. Impossible.

I think the Lord wants us to learn that all Christians are members of His body, and to == no matter what the differences are that are minor and that are subordinate and to keep them subordinate position. The unity of the body of Christ.

Organizational work--grad. Use organizations. Use human methods but keep them in a subordinate position. Remember that your unity with other Christians with whom you are not working is just as important in some respects as is the unity with individuals who are working together in a particular organization, in which you choose to work.

The church of Christ is not limited to one small group, or to one locality, or to one type of person, but it is made up of all those who throughout the world have been saved through the Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus prayed, That they may be one as we are one. We can never be one in exactly the same way as Jesus Christ and God the Father are one. The mystery of the divine unity and yet the autonomy of the persons. That mystery is beyond our comprehension. But there is an analogy there, and he wants us to remember the unity of the entire body of Christ and it is our business to fulfill the prayer that he made, That they may be one even as we are one. Let us pray: Our Father we thank thee for this wonderful prayer our Lord gave. We notice the strong emphasis in Scripture. Help us to realize the ineffable mystery of the unity of the Godhead--one God in three persons. Help us to recognize it. We can't understand it but we can believe it. Help us in our activities to make real real in our attitudes the unity of the body of Christ and never to break that unity by adopting attitudes toward other true believers which would break the unity. Help us to work with those with whom we can work effectively. Help us to avoid getting tied with those with whom we have vital differences even tho minor. Help us to recognize all believers as part of the body of Christ and show love to them as we should. We ask in Jesus Name. Amen.