

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1111

May 15, 2016

Ephesians 4:4-7 says, *“There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. ⁷But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”*

There are seven “ones” in these four verses which show us how much unity and simplicity there is in the LORD. There are not multiple lords and faiths, but, ONE. The LORD has made all very simple and focused for us to follow with no complexity. The number seven is often used in the Bible to show the completeness of something. These seven ones show the complete and total “oneness” of the Lord, His Word, and the Church and how it is complete and final the way it is given to us in the New Testament.

1. **There is one body.** The body is the church, the bride of Christ. There is not another. There are not multiple bodies A husband has one bride, his wife. Christ, the bridegroom, has one bride, the Church, His body. The only body of Christ is the one found in the New Testament. Any other body is not a body of the LORD and cannot lead to salvation.

2. **There is one Spirit.** This refers to the Holy Spirit, that part of God, a

separate entity, that was sent to comfort the disciples. Today the Holy Spirit offers us comfort and shows us the will of God through the Word, given by the Spirit. There is only one Spirit. Pray for the LORD to give you the Holy Spirit. We are told in Luke 10:11 that the Father gives the Holy Spirit to those that ask Him. This is not a miraculous measure of the Spirit in that we can raise the dead, heal the sick, and the such like. It is a measure of the Spirit that we as children of the LORD. This would include the comforting words of the Bible, a God-like spirit in us, and no doubt many other ways we have the Spirit that we certainly do not fully understand. But, I know since we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit at baptism, as well as salvation, and we are to ask for the Holy Spirit, I know it’s something wonderful and something we all want and need.

3. **There is one hope.** Those in the world, who have never obeyed the LORD have absolutely no hope of saving their souls after this life is over unless they do obey in this life. Hope of an eternal home in Heaven is in the LORD only. Not in some man or doctrine of men, but, the hope that is found in the New Testament. You have one hope only, the hope that is in Jesus Christ.

4. **There is one LORD.** There are no other lords but the LORD of the Bible. There is no other to whom we submit our lives. In Revelation 17:14 we are told that the Lamb (Jesus) is Lord of lords. Two chapters later in Revelation 19:16 we are told Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords. This was written on his thigh. The thigh contains the longest and strongest bone and longest muscle in the body. It’s fitting this was written on Jesus’ thigh thus showing the strength and eternalness of his being King of kings and LORD of lords. There is no other LORD. There is only Jesus.

5. **There is one faith.** There is no other faith but the faith that has been once delivered unto us (Jude 3). People often refer to “my faith” or ask, “what faith are you?” There is no other faith than that delivered in the words of the New Testament. Faith in any other faith only leads to eternal destruction.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, Terry Burd,** and **Shirley Parson. Brad Terry,** the nephew of Linda Terry, has Hodgkin's

lymphoma. The father of **Chelsee Wooten** is doing much better but remains in Jewish Hospital in Louisville. **Patrick Crabtree** had to go to the emergency room Wednesday suffering from kidney stones. He is doing much better.

—**Jerry & Shari Edwards** were omitted from the list of May birthdays and anniversaries. They celebrate their anniversary, tomorrow, May 16.

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6. **There is one baptism.** The only baptism is the baptism that washes away our sins. Baptism of the New Testament is a submersion totally under water, for it is a burial (Romans 6). It is the one baptism that washes away our sins (Acts 22:16) and that saves us (I Peter 3:21).

7. **There is one God and Father.** There are no gods made with men's hands. Referring to gods cast into the fire, we are told in Isaiah 37:29, "*for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands.*" There are no gods that can see, hear, and know, and most of all, save our souls, except the one LORD and God in Heaven. To put your hope in another is to put your hope in nothing. There is only one Father. We are commanded not to call any man father upon the earth. (Matthew 23:9) That means in a religious sense because we are to honor our father and mother, referring to the physical father. There is only one God and one Father, and He is in Heaven—the God and Father we read about in the pages of the Bible.

The final "one" in this passage is that the grace of God, according to the measure of the gift of Christ, is given to each one of us. Christ is the gift given to us by God's grace. This is not automatic salvation. The grace and gift are extended to each one of us, but, it's up to us

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Sunday, May 8, 2016		
Classes	22	Galatians 3:10-19
Preaching	23	Mothers of the Bible
Contribution	\$501.00	
Evening	17	Psalms 137:1-139:24
Wednesday, May 11, 2016		
Classes	18	Ezekiel 45:1-25

Bible Quiz

The captives in Babylon were required to sing a song of where?

Last Week's Answer— Clay (Jeremiah 18:4)

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to accept the gift and obey. Not just faith, but repentance, confession of the Lord's name, and baptism that puts us into Christ, and then to remain faithful to the LORD. All these work together. Without any one of these we will not be in Christ and not be saved.

—Marty Edwards ❖

I was reminded to write about all the ones in Ephesians 4 since the number of today's bulletin is 1,111.

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)