



WHY DON'T WE ALL AGREE?

FORCES THAT KEEP US FROM FELLOWSHIP

UNITY IS A REALISTIC GOAL

- We are to be stones in God's spiritual house.
 - 1 Peter 2.1-5
- We are to comprise the body of Christ.
 - Ephesians 1.22-23
- We are to supply each other.
 - Ephesians 4.16
- We find unity through faith in Christ and His word.
 - Ephesians 4.13-15

WHY DO WE DISAGREE?

- It's a money issue.
- The story of the rich, young ruler (Mark 10.17ff).
 - Though he kept the law of Moses, there was still a barrier – his love of money.
 - Note how he approached Christ at the beginning.
 - His love for money was greater than his love for X.
- Financial concerns can alter the way we examine and respond to evidence.

WHY DO WE DISAGREE?

→ *Self-rule*

- It's an **autonomy** issue.
- Consider the Jewish authorities of Jesus' day:
 - Jesus challenged the Jewish leaders (Mt. 21.24ff).
 - The answer – from Heaven (John 1.33).
 - They would not answer – it would have meant a loss of power and influence (Mt. 21.26).
 - This issue even spread to common folk (Jn. 12.42f).
- Selfishness will impede our view of the truth.

WHY DO WE DISAGREE?

- It's an emotional issue.
- Sometimes we won't see the truth or examine evidence clearly because of our emotions.
- Note Jesus' interaction with the Pharisees:
 - He was accused of lying and blasphemy.
 - Jesus pointed out they were in bondage (Jn. 12.31) – them and their forefathers.
 - The Jews completely rejected this charge (12.33).

GUARDING MY HEART:

- How to we avoid these self-made difficulties?
 - We keep our finances in the proper perspective.
 - 1 Timothy 6.6-10,17-19
 - We resign our lives to Christ.
 - Galatians 2.20; Colossians 3.2ff
 - We align our hearts and emotions with God.
 - Mark 10.21; 12.30