

A close-up photograph of two hands, one darker-skinned and one lighter-skinned, shaking in a firm grip. The background is a plain, light color.

REACHING OUT

being who the world needs us to be

***YET EVEN LIFELESS THINGS, EITHER
FLUTE OR HARP, IN PRODUCING A
SOUND, IF THEY DO NOT
PRODUCE A DISTINCTION IN
THE TONES, HOW WILL IT BE
KNOWN WHAT IS PLAYED ON THE
FLUTE OR ON THE HARP?***

(1 Cor 14:7)



“Aren’t all religions basically the same?”

SUPERFICIALLY? YES.

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that **the work of the law is written on their hearts**, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them.

(Rom 2:14-15)

FUNDAMENTALLY? NO!

- **Nature of God**
- **Nature of man**
- **Nature of sin**
- **Nature of creation**
- **Need for and path to forgiveness**
- **What happens when you die**

“Aren’t all religions basically the same?”

SUPERFICIALLY? YES.

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, nevertheless do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing or even excusing them.

(Rom 2:14-15)

FUNDAMENTALLY? NO!

• Nature of God
• an
• n
• eation
• d path to
• ns when
• you are

WHY?

**Their Holy Book
Their Traditions (Familial & Religious)
Cultural Pressure**

INFERIOR AUTHORITY

INTIMIDATION

GALATIANS 2:11-13; 3 JOHN 9-10

MAJORITY

MATTHEW 7:13-14

PARENTS

MATTHEW 10:37; GALATIANS 1:14

PREACHERS

2 CORINTHIANS 11:13-15

HUMAN CREEDS

MATTHEW 15:9

CONSCIENCE

ACTS 23:1 WITH 26:9

HUMAN WISDOM, PHILOSOPHY

1 CORINTHIANS 1:21-23

FEELINGS (MY WAY)

PROVERBS 16:25

LAWLESSNESS

MATTHEW 7:21-23

SITUATIONAL ETHICS

ROMANS 3:8

"REJECT AUTHORITY" JUDE 1:8

"DIOTREPHES... DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE OUR AUTHORITY." 3 JN 1:9

"DESPISE AUTHORITY" 2 PET 2:10

FOR WE DO NOT WRESTLE AGAINST FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT AGAINST THE RULERS, AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES, AGAINST THE COSMIC POWERS OVER THIS PRESENT DARKNESS, AGAINST THE SPIRITUAL FORCES OF EVIL IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES. EPHESIANS 6:12

SO THAT THROUGH THE CHURCH THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD MIGHT NOW BE MADE KNOWN TO THE RULERS AND AUTHORITIES IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES. EPHESIANS 3:10

BIBLE AUTHORITY – The right to lead, privilege

ISAIAH SPOKE OF ONE PATH (ISA 35:8)

JEREMIAH FORETOLD ONE WAY (JER 32:39)

CHRIST TAUGHT THERE WAS ONE WAY (MATT 7:13-14)

JESUS SAID, "I AM THE WAY" (JHN 14:6)

JESUS SAID THERE IS ONE DOOR (JHN 10:9)

JESUS SAID THERE IS ONE SHEPHERD (JHN 10:16)

JESUS SAID THERE IS ONE FOLD (JHN 10:16)

CHRIST BUILT ONE CHURCH (MATT 16:18)

CHRIST COMMISSIONED ONE GOSPEL (MK 16:15-16)

PAUL KNEW ONE GOSPEL (GAL 1:8-9)

BIBLE AUTHORITY – The right to lead, privilege

THERE IS ONE BODY (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE SPIRIT (EPH 4:4; 1 COR 12:4)

THERE IS ONE HOPE (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE LORD (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE FAITH (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE BAPTISM (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE GOD (EPH 4:4)

THERE IS ONE DOCTRINE (MATT 7:28; JHN 7:16-17;

ACTS 2:42; 5:28; ROM 6:17; EPH 4:14; 1 TIM 1:3; 2

TIM 4:2-3)

ONE WAY, NOT MANY WAYS
ONE PATH, NOT MANY PATHS
ONE DOOR, NOT MANY DOORS
ONE FOLD, NOT MANY FOLDS
ONE CHURCH, NOT MANY CHURCHES
ONE GOSPEL, NOT MANY GOSPELS
ONE DOCTRINE, NOT MANY DOCTRINES
ONE BODY, NOT MANY BODIES
ONE SPIRIT, NOT MANY SPIRITS
ONE HOPE, NOT MANY HOPES
ONE LORD, NOT MANY LORDS
ONE FAITH, NOT MANY FAITHS
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John 17:20 "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, ²¹ that **they may all be one**, just as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You, that **they also may be in Us**, so that the world may **believe** that You have sent Me."

SO WHY IS THERE DIVISION & CONFUSION?

People don't **TEST** things

1 JHN 4:1 BELOVED, DO NOT BELIEVE EVERY SPIRIT, BUT TEST THE SPIRITS TO SEE WHETHER THEY ARE FROM GOD, FOR MANY FALSE PROPHETS HAVE GONE OUT INTO THE WORLD.

People accept multiple **INTERPRETATIONS**

2 PETER 1:20 KNOWING THIS FIRST OF ALL, THAT NO PROPHECY OF SCRIPTURE COMES FROM SOMEONE'S OWN INTERPRETATION. ²¹ FOR NO PROPHECY WAS EVER PRODUCED BY THE WILL OF MAN, BUT MEN SPOKE FROM GOD AS THEY WERE CARRIED ALONG BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

People simply don't **KNOW** better

1 TIM. 1:13 THOUGH FORMERLY I WAS A BLASPHEMER, PERSECUTOR, AND INSOLENT OPPONENT. BUT I RECEIVED MERCY BECAUSE I HAD ACTED IGNORANTLY IN UNBELIEF,

People don't see us **WORKING**

MATTHEW 5:16 EVEN SO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE BEFORE MEN; THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS, AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is
breathed out by God and profitable for
teaching, for reproof, for correction,
and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷
that the man of God may be complete,
equipped for every good work.