

Finding Unity (a.k.a. ONEness) With God:

HOW TO START FRESH, NEW & ALIVE

SUMMERDALE CHURCH OF CHRIST (Summerdale, AL)

Summer Series Message by Ray Reynolds on June 18, 2017

Introduction: We live in a world full of division and confusion. The unity Christ offers is unlike anything the world can provide. The Bible echoes the joy of refreshing, renewal and revival in that ONEness. Nearly every book has a story on these themes. The times of refreshing, renewal, and revival are still here! We can find unity with God. We can start fresh, new and be alive again. We need to let God do His mighty work! Let's study together...

Discussion:

I. God Offers ONEness Through Times of Refreshing

Acts 3:19 - "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

- Faith in God's Word (Matthew 7:24-27, Acts 15:7, Romans 10:17)
- Faith in God's Will (John 3:16, 8:24, Hebrews 11:1, 6, II Peter 3:9)
- Faith in God's Wisdom (Luke 13:3,5, Acts 2:38, 17:30, Romans 8:5)
- Faith in God's Way (Matthew 10:32-33, John 14:6, Romans 10:9-10)
- Faith in God's Washing (Mark 16:15-16, Acts 2:38, I Peter 1:21-22)
- Faith in God's Walk (Romans 6:3-7, II Timothy 4:6-8, Revelation 2:10)
- Faith in God's Work (Philippians 1:6, Colossians 2:11-14, James 2:14-26)

II. God Offers ONEness Through Times of Renewal

Acts 17:30 - "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent."

- Hope in the Simple Gospel Message (Acts 28:20, Romans 1:16, Colossians 1:5, 23)
- Hope in our Savior's Calling (Ephesians 1:18, 4:4, 5:1-6, I Peter 2:9)
- Hope of Salvation from Sin (Romans 8:24-25, I Thessalonians 5:8, Hebrews 6:19-20)
- Hope of a Steadfast Family (Matthew 16:18-19, Romans 7:1-7, Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:22-32)
- Hope of a Sweet Heavenly Reward (Matthew 6:19-20, Colossians 1:5, II Timothy 4:6-8)
- Hope of the Swift Resurrection (Acts 23:6, I Corinthians 15, I Thessalonians 4:13-18)
- Hope of a Secure Eternal Life (Matthew 7:13-14, Titus 1:2, 3:7, Revelation 21:4)

III. God Offers ONeness Through Times of Revival

II Chronicles 7:14 - *"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

- Love for the Presence of Jesus (Mark 12:30-31, Acts 4:12, 11:16, 26:28, I Peter 4:16)
- Love for the Position of Humanity (Matthew 18:4, 23:12, Romans 12:6, James 4:10)
- Love for the Plea of the Seeker (Matthew 6:33, 7:7, Acts 15:17, 17:27)
- Love for the Purity of the Believer (Luke 15:7, Romans 12:15, Philippians 4:4)
- Love for Prayers Answered (Luke 15:7, James 5:16, I Peter 3:12)
- Love for the Promise of Forgiveness (Psalm 103:2, Micah 7:19, Hebrews 8:12, I John 1:7-10)
- Love for Prompt Healing (Romans 8:11, 12:1-2, Philippians 2:13, Revelation 22:2)

Conclusion: The beloved apostle John was an encourager. He said, *"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God"* (I John 5:13). John wrote his letter so that his readers could KNOW they have eternal life!

Every part of your life should be impacted by your faith in God, your hope of eternal life you have in Jesus Christ, and the love you must bear as a fruit of the Holy Spirit. We need to pursue the unity (I Corinthians 1:10) that Jesus prayed for in John 17. However, we must also seek to bring others into the fold of God so they can experience the same unity. Do you need refreshing? Are you seeking renewal? Have you been longing for revival? Come to Jesus!