

We Have the Mind of Messiah

If then there is any encouragement in Messiah, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Messiah Yahshua... (Phil 2:1-5)

The same mind as our Master Yahshua. *Mind* means the way that one is disposed. *Therefore, if anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Cor 5:17)*

Whoever is in Messiah is a *new creation*. They don't go by their old disposition, as they have received a new disposition. Whoever is truly in Messiah has received the same mind as Him — a way of leaning, an attitude, the way they think, their opinions. This is what it means to have “the mind of Messiah.” We have the same opinion as Messiah, the same mentality, attitude, and sentiments. We have the same affections, which activate the will. We have our affections on the same things as Messiah. Our affections aren't on anything else.

Someone said, “I'm just so tired. All my life, I've just been working on other people's burdens; *finally* I'm getting to work on my own burden.” That is a terrible, horrible attitude; it's not the same attitude as Messiah. If we're not doing what Phil 2:1-5 says, then actually we could be *heretics*, because we're not of one mind with the Body.

Let's see what our Master said to Peter, in Mt 16:23. Obviously, he wasn't having the same mind as our Master. He had just received the revelation of who our Master was in Mt 16:15-16, but then he switched over to hearing another voice.

Yahshua began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” He turned and said to

Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” (Mt 16:21-23)

What? Satan was speaking right through Peter! Wow! Peter, in his own mind, was disposed that way, and it just showed where he was coming from. He switched over, right after our Master told Peter, “Blessed are you, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.”

What is a Heresy?

*But we would like to hear from you what you think, for with regard to this **sect** we know that everywhere it is spoken against. (Acts 28:22)*

They were known as a *sect* or *cult*. They were regarded at that time as being a part of the religion of Judaism. So because they had different opinions than Judaism, and a different way of living, they were regarded as a heretical sect. If we were a part of Christianity, then we would rightly be regarded as heretics. But they have no right to call us *heretics* because we are not *part* of Christianity. The only time you can be a heretic is if you take identity in that religion but disagree with it — then you’re a heretic. But we’re not a part of Christianity, just as the first church wasn’t a part of Judaism.

Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. (Mt 21:43)

Tit 3:10 says to have nothing more to do with anyone who causes divisions. Paul said to “reject a factious person” — that would be someone who is part of the community he is writing to Titus about. They would reject a “factious person” — one who hangs on to different opinions. Tit 3:10 says, “*after a first and second warning, have nothing to do with anyone who is factious.*” Therefore, he would be considered a heretic, one who is practicing heresy, teaching other things, other doctrines. He doesn’t have the same mind as Messiah, and he starts expressing that other mind, that other opinion. He has his affections on something else, which causes divisions. *Affections* activate the will; you *set* your affections on something.

Those living according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh; those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. (Rom 8:5)

Those who live by the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. So there won't be any factions, there won't be any divisions; there will be peace because everyone will have the same mind as Messiah.

If anyone says you're a heretic, you can say, "No I'm not. I'm in total unity with my brothers and sisters, so how can I be a heretic?" A heretic is a person within a group that disagrees with its doctrine and teaching; he's not of one mind with the rest of them. A heretic causes divisions.

A schismatic is someone who is in a Christian church, such as the First Baptist Church, and he divides and starts another church. He is creating a schism, saying, "Oh, well, we just believe differently; we don't have the same mind as you. We have a little disagreement on how to understand the Word, so we're going to start our own denomination. We're going to call *our* church according to what we believe." We need to understand these things so that we can talk to Christians in a good way.

We must have the same mind as our Master, or else it will come out. "What's in the well comes up in the bucket." If the well is dirty, then what comes up in the bucket? Dirty water. What comes up in the bucket reveals what is in the well. What comes out of our mouth reveals what is in us. If we don't have the same mind as our Master, it will eventually start coming up.

"Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." (Mt 12:34-37)

Idle or careless words come from our mind. Our mind is in our soul. It's not in your head — that's your brain, and the brain is just an organ, but the mind is in the soul. The mind is the mental aspect of us. If our will is not functioning right, and it just allows

unjudged things to come forth from our mind, then it causes divisions. It manifests as not having the same mind as our Master.

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. (Rom 12:16)

Haughty is not listening to others, thinking you know more than they do, not having the same mind. What is *harmony*? When we're all singing together, you can tell when someone isn't in harmony; he's out of tune.

Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. (Phil 3:19)

Their appetite is for the things they want to do. They set their mind on earthly things. There's the same word — *mind*.

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. (Rom 12:2-3)

So here's that word *mind* again. We can't be haughty; we can't think too highly of ourselves. We're transformed by the renewing of our mind. Our mind used to not be like Messiah, but now it is being transformed into His. We have the same mind as He does, the same attitude, the same disposition as Him, don't we? If He's dwelling in our soul, we do. So *mind* means the way one in Messiah is disposed, having the same opinions, mentality, attitudes, sentiment, affections, action of the will.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Messiah in God. (Col 3:2-3)

We read in Phil 3:19 about those who “set their mind on earthly things,” and it says almost the same thing here. What is “on earth” that we shouldn't set our minds on? “*Set your minds on things above...*” That is how Messiah's mind is, isn't it? That's how we're to be.

So how do we apply Tit 3:10, to “*reject a divisive man after the first and second warning*”? You get together, have a qahal, and talk about it. If he doesn’t take heed to that warning or admonition, what are you supposed to do? Have nothing more to do with him. The NKJ says to reject him, send him away. And what if we don’t do this, if we’re not obedient to this? Then our mind won’t be like our Master.

...complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (Phil 2:2)

What if we don’t do what it says in Phil 2:1-5? What if we don’t agree on Tit 3:10 as the truth, and we don’t do it? What, then, are we doing? What [will happen] if someone does it, and someone else doesn’t do it? They don’t have the same mind, do they? Just read all of Titus chapter 2, and then read on into chapter 3, and you can see that these are direct commands for us to do!! They are actually direct commands.

They profess to know God, but in works they deny Him, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work. (Tit 1:16)

They “profess to know God,” but they deny Him *by their actions*. They are unfit (disqualified) for *any* good work. And then Paul goes on to tell us all those things we are to do.

But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless. (Tit 3:9)

So what if we don’t DO what he said to do there: *avoid disputes*?

Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition. (Tit 3:10)

Admonish means reprimand firmly; earnestly urge or warn. After a first and second warning, we’re commanded to have nothing more to do with a factious man. How do you KNOW that someone is a factious man? What is a factious man? What is his character? What does our *Father* say about the factious person’s character in verse 11, *since you know*? How do you know? You know because you have the mind of Messiah. The people who have the mind of Messiah know that a factious person is perverted and self-condemned. So, we reject such a one after a first and second warning.

Now, what if we don't do that? What if we don't even have a first and second warning? What if we just allow it to happen in our midst? What will happen? The same thing that happened to the first church when they allowed it. They didn't obey that command. They allowed divisions to come in, and pretty soon everyone was denominating. I guess we're perverted, we're the same as Christianity, if we don't do something about divisive people. Go to the leaders and elders and say, "I really love this brother, but he is saying something that doesn't seem like what the Holy Spirit has been teaching us." Then we can get together with the person and talk with him. And if he keeps on having his own mind, then we can't have anything more to do with him. If we don't do that, then we'll eventually be destroyed because we don't have the mind of Messiah. Messiah would do that, wouldn't He? Isn't that what He's telling us to do in Titus 3:10?

ha-êmeq — Yônêq said the main reason a lot of denominations start is because they go to paint the church and they can't agree on which color to paint it. But somebody has to give. Someone always has to give in order for unity to happen. Actually, you have to give up something of yourself. We all have certain things that we like and don't like. I always hated vinegar, and now we drink vinney. And so, then, do I like vinney? Yes, I like that we drink vinney. I like that very much. But, do I like the taste of vinegar? No. But I *like* that we drink vinney. You're not going to get me to say that I have a different mind about vinegar and vinney than my brothers do, because I *like* it that we drink vinney. And that's the miracle of the Body of Messiah — we actually have one mind about something. We all agree about everything. Whenever any subject comes up, we all agree; we all have the same response.

She's not kidding. There is always division every time someone paints the church in Christianity. We were talking in Pulaski about what color to paint the house, and Malachi had an opinion, and Rebecca had an opinion, and I had an opinion, and ha-êmeq did, but we all got together and decided to agree that we would paint it a certain color of yellow.

ha-êmeq — At any moment, we could divide. But you feel something in you “give way” because you prefer the unity over your particular tastes, and how you think it would look best doesn’t matter. It is beautiful to see. It is just like a “giving up” of your life, of your possession (your opinion), to come to one mind, and you’re happy about it.

These things have to come as a testing — there will always be tests.

*For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.
(Rom 8:6)*

...with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Eph 4:2-3).

This is a commandment. Now, what if we don’t do that? We’re going to divide.

But we bear with one another, because we love one another, “making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit.”

There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call — one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. (Eph 4:4-6)

The Body of Messiah is all in unity; it’s all one; it’s not divided. We have to be that and do that because no one else is doing it on earth. No one else has ever done it since the first century, not as a nation.