

Table Talk on May 11, 2018
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Ephesians 4: 4-14

For 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 us all, who pervades us all, and tis within us all.

Shema:

Hear, O Israel: Yahweh is our God, Yahweh alone (is one). You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart and with all your life and with all that you are. These words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

Today we say:

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

Matthew 22:34-46; (Mark 12:28-34); John 10:27-30;
Romans 3:28-31, 10:5-12;
I Corinthians 18:5-6 (8:1-13), 2:1-3
Galatians 3:17-20; I Timothy 2:3-7; James 2:19-24

But each one of us was granted grace determined by the full measure of Christ's gift. As it says, "When he ascended on high he led captivities as captives, and he gave gifts to men. (In saying, "he ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended to the lowest of earth?) He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all that is.) The gifts he gave were for some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some to shepherd and teach; for the equipping of God's holy people, for the work of ministry, for building of the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of God's Son, reaching maturity reaching the full grown stature and the full measure, which belongs to the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed about by every wave and wind and carried away by every wind of doctrine, and human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

1. Grace is universal: Christ determines it individually – personally
2. The gifts are ministry entablements
3. The goal is personal maturity in Christ
4. Knowledge of God is not Knowledge “about” God
5. Maturity creates doctrinal stability
6. The Kingdom: a people of love