

Dwelling Together In Unity
P.S. 133:1-3

Your presence here is appreciated with a warm unforgetful heart. Not soon will the Wroten family and the first Methodist church forget your big brotherly spirit demonstrated here this evening.

We started to give Brother metts a service like this last Spring but he did not leave us. Now if I do not do what many think I am going to do I hope that you will be as well pleased with us when we come back as all of us were pleased when Brother metts did not leave last spring.

When I learned that you were coming for this fellowship service I began to wonder what I would preach about--some central idea that affects us all. Illustration: A good colored Bro. was down praying and the memorized prayer left him and he only remembered one petition and that was, "Oh Lord give us power." He repeated that some five times when one of the deacons whispered, "Brudder, by dis time surely you has de power, what you needs is de idea." I have been hunting the idea for to night. In the midst of my reaching out the words of this text began to present themselves: "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Now if we can just emphasize this thought to-night and go away with it living in our hearts in a more marked manner than we have been realizing it then I believe that God will be pleased with our efforts tonight.

PICTURE: David says that the pleasantness of such a fellowship is like the precious oil upon the head that ran down on the beard even Aaron's beard and to his skirts. In this performance God commanded a blessing, even life forevermore

What kind of unity was this?

I. Unity of spirit and not organic union.

I wonder sometimes if Jesus would have us do away with the denominations. I am wondering if we would not have stagnation in our church life if all of us were in the same denomination.

Consequences: 75% of pastors would lose their jobs here in W.V. It might pass the membership to lower cost of religion.

Let's look at an example in the early Ch. Eph. 4:1-3. "I therefore the prisoner in Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love, giving diligence to keep the UNITY of the Spirit in the bond of peace." This does not say anything about one church house for W.V.

When Jesus prayed for his followers that they might be one as He and God were one He must have meant in spirit.

If we are one in Spirit we will be one in love and one in loving our neighbors as our selves. Then if my home is like that and your home is like that, my home will not try to wreck your home. And if my ch. is like that it will not try to wreck your church. Thank God for unity of Spirit. How good and how pleasant it is to dwell in it.

2. Unity of faith. In Eph. 4:13 we read, "Till we all attain unto the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God." And just think of our town or any town as a unit in faith and knowledge of Jesus and one in the Spirit of God. How pleasant and good that would be. God would be commanding his blessings even eternal life upon people all the time.

3. Unity of effort in atmosphere for our offspring. Atmosphere kills or builds. DENESEURS. Family Altars freeze. Neighbors run in while you are praying and your children have to explain what they were doing till they want quit it.

Atmosphere killed:

- a. Slavery
- b. Trying to kill lynching
- c. It will kill war
- d. It did kill the 18th amendment and it will: some of these days give us real prohibition.

4. Let's be a unit in lengthening our cords to take in the whole human race till this whole citizenship really practice the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

Let's see to it that every soul in W.V. be won to Jesus. If there are those who will not confess Him, make your atmosphere for loyalty to Jesus so hot that such persons may become so uncomfortable that they will move out and cease to pile stumbling blocks in the path of our young people.

