

## PROV. 30:27 – LEARN FROM THE LOCUSTS (Phil. 2)

Prov. 30:27 - locusts have no king, yet they advance together in ranks;  
The lesson for us is the power of \_\_\_\_\_.

I. UNITY GIVES US \_\_\_\_\_ Psalm 133 AMP “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in UNITY. It is like the precious ointment poured on the head, that ran down on the beard, even the beard of Aaron (the first high priest). That came down upon the collar and skirts of his garments. (Consecrating the whole body) It is like the dew of (lofty) Mt. Hermon and the dew that comes on the hills of Zion: for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forevermore (upon the high and the lowly).”

John 17:21 – “that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent Me.”

## II. UNITY FLOWS FROM OUR UNION WITH CHRIST – PHIL. 2:1, 2, 5 (HIS MIND IN US)

John 17:23 – “I in them and you in Me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent Me and have loved them even as you have loved Me.”

Phil. 2:1 – Therefore if (should be “since”) you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort (the word can also mean “motivation”) from his love, if any common sharing (fellowship) in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ – Does His example encourage you?
- b) Incentive of love – does His love \_\_\_\_\_ you?
- c) Fellowship
- d) Tenderness and compassion

Phil. 2:2 - then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

- a) like-minded – same standard of moral judgment - The \_\_\_\_\_!
- b) same \_\_\_\_\_ – love others as Christ loved us
- c) one in spirit – \_\_\_\_\_
- d) one in purpose

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

- a) He thinks of \_\_\_\_\_, not himself v. 5,6
- b) He serves \_\_\_\_\_ v. 7 – servant spirit
- c) He sacrifices – v. 8 – becoming a man; dying a criminal’s death – for US!

## III. UNITY IS NOT UNIFORMITY

I Cor. 1:10 - I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.

- a) No divisions – not clones, but no \_\_\_\_\_
- b) United – same mind – attitude. The word “thought” is often translated “judgment”

**BUT NOT UNIFORMITY! NOT “UNISON”**

1 Cor. 12:4-6 There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.

**IV. THE THREATS TO UNITY COME FROM OUR OWN \_\_\_\_\_**

I Cor. 3:3 – “ For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans? <sup>4</sup> For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not mere human beings?

Phil. 2:3,4: “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.”

Unity is an attitude/spirit first and foremost.

The threats to unity are our own attitudes of selfish ambition or vain conceit (pride), and being self-centered.

**V. TO REPEAT: LEARN FROM THE LOCUSTS – THERE IS \_\_\_\_\_ IN UNITY**

Romans 12:4-5, <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Deut 32:30,31 - How could one man chase a thousand, or two put ten thousand to flight, unless their Rock had sold them, unless the Lord had given them up? <sup>31</sup> For their rock is not like our Rock, as even our enemies concede.

Lev. 26:8 - Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall by the sword before you.

When 2 Christians get together in agreement/unity, they are MUCH MORE than doubly effective!