

## **How Do We Handle Disagreements?**

*“...if in any thing you be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.”*

(Philippians 3:15)

In this verse Paul was addressing his favorite congregation, the Philippians. This group of people had supported him with prayer, love, and finances when no one else would. As Paul's prison sentence was coming to an end, the only group he desired to see were the Philippians. They were as close to being a perfect congregation as possible. But what exactly is a *perfect congregation*? It is certainly not one that makes no mistakes or never has disagreements. Neither is it a flock that has every doctrine correct or where everyone agrees on every teaching. So, what is a *perfect congregation*?

During one Wednesday night service, I asked the congregation how many had disagreed with some of the things I had taught throughout the years. Every hand went up. I was a little disturbed. To be honest, it hurt my ego. I thought maybe a few people might respond, but certainly not everyone.

A Spirit-filled church is unique. It is not united because of doctrine. The congregation is comprised of Baptists, Methodists, Catholics, Presbyterians and more. We are united by the new birth and the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Because we all come from different backgrounds, we often bring our “pet” doctrines with us when we are born again and filled with the Spirit. Regardless of how well a pastor may preach, some doctrinal beliefs will not be corrected until we all stand before the Lord at the judgment seat of Christ. We will all disagree on certain issues until we get to heaven. No one has the corner on the market for every doctrine.

If doctrine does not unite a church, what does? Vision is what unites the church. When we disagree, we should turn it over to the Lord, who will one day settle every issue. Until then, we can disagree without being disagreeable. Paul says, “...if in anything you be otherwise minded, God shall reveal it unto you.” We do not need to strive to make everyone believe as we do. We should “endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3).

The definition of a perfect church is one that is able to catch the vision of both the Leader from heaven, Jesus, and the leader on earth, the pastor, to win souls and lead converts into spiritual maturity. A perfect church has the ability to take areas of spiritual disagreement and give them to the Lord, realizing God will handle all of them in eternity.

### **Precepts Radio and Television Broadcasts**

The vision of the *Precepts* radio broadcast is to help bring people into spiritual maturity, to bring them into perfection. This not only helps people better understand the Word of God, but also helps them to get along better with fellow Christians. Life is short and not every issue is a heaven or hell issue. Many doctrines which we seem to think are so important don't seem as significant when we mature in the Word of God. Rather than argue about differences, the Christian life is about walking in unity to accomplish a goal.

The listeners of the broadcast are also growing. There is a world that needs to find Jesus and believers who need help in discovering their spiritual rights and authority. Your partnership with me in this ministry helps bring this Word to believers in our country. It truly brings strength to our nation when we help equip believers to do the work of the ministry.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. You are important to the Lord Jesus, the kingdom of God, and to me. One day in heaven, I will meet you and tell you all that was accomplished through your giving.

Bob Yandian

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