

ISOLATION

One of the schemes the devil likes to perpetrate on Christians is the tendency to pull back or isolate them. This is often the result of the self preservation that arises out of rejections that have been encountered. The inward hurts cause the person to focus on themselves and to forget any sense of unity, any sense of belonging or any sense of responsibility in the body of Christ. The Bible clearly speaks to this subject, especially in the amplified and New American Standard versions:

Proverbs 18:1

“He who separates himself seeks {his own} desire, He quarrels against all sound wisdom.”

First of all, this tendency to isolate fights directly against the basic principles of covenant we are to live under in Christ – we are to be concerned about one another, even to the point of our laying down our lives for one another (1 John 3:14). We are not to be solely concerned about ourselves, but are to love our brothers as ourselves (Matthew 22:39), and actually make the kingdom of God our first priority (Matthew 6:33).

The Bible says we are not to forsake assembling (Hebrews 10:24-25) and that we are to be trained/equipped (Ephesians 4:11-12). As viable joints, we are to be supplying so the whole body can benefit from our presence.

Ephesians 4:16

“from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.”

This is in consonance with 1 Corinthians 12 where the Word specifically states that our gifts are for the common good. So, we can't let fear overcome us and put ourselves in the position of the servant with the one talent.

Matthew 25:25-26

“And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground; see, you have what is yours.

But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I scattered no {seed}.’”

So, God wants us as one body, in unity working together – helping one another in concert to bring in the kingdom of heaven on earth as we take the land for Him. The devil wants to thwart this by separating us, so the church loses our individual input and the synergism of us all working together.