

## I Thessalonians

Class #130 – SUN AM (2) - 1/22/2006

### **1 Thess 5:11**

(11) Therefore encourage one another (*keep on encouraging one another*) and build up one another (*keep on building up one another*), just as you also are doing.

**POD** – The Christian fulfills the standing order to build up fellow believers when he begins functioning as an effective member in an advancing unit (local church).

- He **functions** by fulfilling the responsibilities of a Church Age Believer Priest for the benefit of the unit as a whole (as that unit advances).

### **Eph 2:10**

(10) For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

- Carpe Occasio the opportunities that you have.

### **PODs regarding HEIS-TON-HENA**

1. No Christian is more important than the team as a whole. Not the pastor-teacher. Not the one with the gift of evangelism. Not the one who gives or who offers help and encouragement!
2. However, every Christian is a vital member of the team (1 Cor 12:12-21).

#### **1 Cor 12:12-21**

(12) For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

(13) For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

(14) For the body is not one member, but many.

(15) If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

(16) And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

(17) If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

(18) But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

(19) If they were all one member, where would the body be?

(20) But now there are many members, but one body.

(21) And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

3. To function effectively in the body the Christian must consider his fellow soldiers / teammates as more important than self (Rom 12:10 cf. Phil 2:5-8).
4. Considering teammates as more important than self requires genuine humility and thus facilitates the concept of HEIS-TON-HENA ("one the other")
5. Definition: HEIS-TON-HENA – The interdependent and synchronized function of the Christian for the benefit of the team as a whole; all being dependent on the manifold grace of God (1 Thess 5:11 cf. Eph 4:16).

#### **Eph 4:15-16**

(15) but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,

(16) from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint...

- Joint - HAPHE – point of contact
- Wherever that supply is transferred

... supplies (a superabundance of supply), according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in **love**.

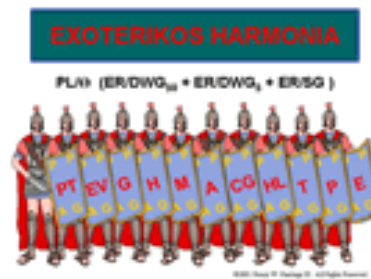
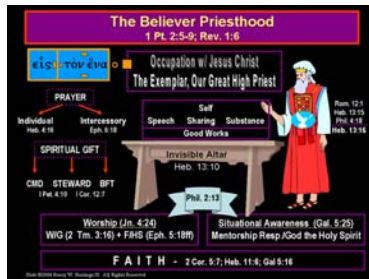
6. HEIS-TON-HENA requires personal sacrifice.
7. HEIS-TON-HENA results in EXOTERIKOS HARMONIA which glorifies God.
  - EXOTERIKOS – That synchronized function of spiritual gifts in a local church which produces maximum impact.
  - All spiritual gifts functioning together with a unity of effort in a synchronized manner produces maximum glorification of God in the time in which we live.

And where does that **love** come from? The breastplate! The one you have “geared up” with.

Additional requirement: **authority orientation**.

**POD** – Unconditional love and authority orientation are required to maintain ranks in the spiritual advance.

### Class slides



“...having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet, the *confident expectation of deliverance*” (1 Thess. 5:8).



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*All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.*