

THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE

John 17:21, "that they may all be one;" I would like to invite you to pray daily with Jesus for unity among all believers. [Jn 10:16], "there shall be one flock, one shepherd." Jesus said that there would be one flock, not 20,000 different denominations! We can have diversity of prayer styles, but Scripture says there will be one authority. Jesus as head shepherd, [Jn 10:11] "I am the good shepherd..."; designates, to take care of the flock, Peter; as He says: "Feed My lambs." [Jn 21:15-17] To feed the lambs would be the act of the shepherd or whoever he designates. Making Peter the head of the Church Jesus established on earth.

Jesus did not tell the other apostles to feed His lambs. We also know that Jesus is the head of the household, [Mt 10:25], "If they have called the master of the house Be-elzebul, how much more will they malign those of His household." This is also a prophecy from Jesus that the head of His Church, (the master whom He appoints); and the rest of His Church (household), will be accused of being controlled by the evil one! Jesus as head of the household is in charge of the keys, [Rev 1:18], "I have the keys of Death and Hades." Jesus can designate someone to watch over the household while He is away. He can choose a head steward, and give him the keys, which open all the doors [1s 22:22], so the head steward would have the power to make decisions in his master's absence, having all authority given to him, to run the household. Jesus does this in, [Mt 16:18-19], "And I tell

you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My Church, and the powers of death (Death and Hades) shall not prevail against it.

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Jesus did not give the keys to the other apostles.

St. Paul says in, [Eph 4:4-6]

**one Lord,
One Faith,
One
baptism,
One God
and Father
Of all**

"There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all," St.

Paul is making it clear that there was to be a unity among believers, a oneness. In fact in [1 Cor 1:10], he expands on this point, "I appeal to you, brethren, ..." that all of you agree and that there be no dissension among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment." St. Paul is saying that every time you disagree, you cannot split off and start another church. St. Paul continues in this line of reasoning

in his letter to the Romans 15:5-6, when he says: "May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

REMEMBER: In the Gospel of Jn, 17:20-21, Jesus prays, "I do not pray for these only, but also for those who believe in me through their word, that they may all be one; even as thou Father art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." That is what St. Paul is referring to in his letter to the Romans by giving glory to the Father, when all believers are of one mind, praising God the Father together in harmony, then and only then will the world believe that Jesus came from the heavenly Father and then we will give glory to the Father. In St. Paul's 1 Tim 3: 15, St. Paul explains what is the household of God: "you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the Church of the living God, the pillar and bulwark of truth." Who is the head of the household: (JESUS). Who did Jesus place in charge in His absence: (Peter), and his successors. For me this means being Roman Catholic, the Church that can trace a line of Bishops back to St. Peter. Only the Holy Spirit can bring believers together! Please pray with Jesus that all believers may be one!