

**Unity of Love: Fullness of Understanding**

**050205-1**

*Hello! This is Dorothy -*

Have you ever experienced a tremendous battle around you and you pray as if in a hand-to-hand combat? The Apostle Paul speaks of this kind of praying in **Colossians 2** in those **first two verses**. In the Amplified, it says -

**1 For I want you to know how great is my solicitude for you . . . what does that mean, you say - it means - [how severe an inward struggle I am engaged in for you]. . . - that was the agony he was feeling in this warfare that he was battling on behalf of those he was writing to - . . . and for those [believers] at Laodicea, and for all who [like yourselves] have never seen my face and known me personally.** This is amazing! Sometimes you can be praying for someone with such intense agony and you have never even seen them! That is so in this situation. Paul realized the dangers the believers were facing were really coming from false teachers. He goes on to say -

**2 [For my concern is] that their hearts may be braced (comforted, cheered, encouraged).** . . Perhaps you are in this position today as everything is hitting you and you feel something is terribly wrong. We are praying for you that your heart will be **comforted, cheered and encouraged** - and to kindle spiritual

activity. What is spiritual activity? All getting together and having a go at doing something? No . . . **as they are knit together in love.** . . . - Do you realize what this means - to be ***knit together in love?*** *That is to be united* -. . . **that they may come to have all the abounding wealth and blessing of assured conviction of understanding.** . . - *That is what it is to be knit together in love: This **abounding wealth** that is in Christ Jesus, when we understand all the blessings, all the conviction, we stand together in Him.* . . . **understanding.** . . -*discernment-* . . . **and that they might become progressively more intimately acquainted with, and may know**

. . . - *what big words, you say? No, it simply means it is ongoing. When we are in Christ, we are bound together in love - it is an ongoing work of His indwelling Spirit.* Unity in love and a fullness of understanding always produces that . . . **(they) may know more definitely and accurately and thoroughly that mystic secret of God [which is ] Christ, (the Anointed One).** The mystery of the Christ as the body of Christ was neither known in Old Testament times nor even in the times of our Lord here on earth; this mystery was hidden from the ages and generations. However, this mystery is now open and we know it. This is incredible that you and I can know this being in the body of Christ, and because He is the head, being born again and into a body which unites me with people of different backgrounds, different color, different nations. When we

are in Christ, we are in His body, which is the Church.

You know, back in **Romans 11:25**, we read -

**25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits, that blindness in part happened to Israel. . .** In other words, God worked through His people, Israel, but He laid them aside, as it were, that you and I are the Gentiles, the pagans of the world, as it were, might have a chance to come into Him. For it says . . . **until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.** In others words, when we are complete, when the Church is complete, then it is back to Israel.

**26 And so all Israel shall be saved; as it is written, There shall come out of Zion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob.** Oh, their day is coming! But praise God, we have this opportunity to come now in Christ, to be in Christ. So, for the past two thousand years or so, Israel is set aside and Christ is working among the nations. He is drawing your weary heart and my weary heart to Himself, whatever our background. We might have done the worst things in the world or we might have been the most religious-minded person, seeming to be so moral, but He brings us all together. This believing in Him puts us in His body, because He said, . . . **the middle wall of partition. . .** is broken down in this mystery. (**Ephesians 2:14**). Whether it is a Jew; whether it is a Gentile, we are coming into

Christ Himself. Christ is the one in whom all things are hidden.

Note in **Colossians chapter 1:27** this mystery is also in those of us who are believers. As Christ in the believer is. . . the **hope of glory.**

**2:3 In Him All the treasures of [divine] wisdom [of comprehensive insight into the ways of purposes of God], and [all the riches of spiritual] knowledge and enlightenment are stored up and lie hidden (in Christ.)** Christ is the great subject to the mystery and the treasures consist of wisdom and knowledge. In Christ, we have these when we are one in Him. Truth unites; error divides. All true Spirit-given ministry must be Christ-centered.

May you today know Him in this way. May you receive Him in this way. May you be totally dependent upon Him Who is your very life.

*Amen.*