

# **DIVISION**

## **Diversity/discord**

### **CAUSES OF DIVISION:**

1. Real faith: Luke 12:51-53: Jesus' statement  
His coming often results in conflict.  
There is no middle ground when it comes to serving Him.  
We may be misunderstood.
2. A carnal spirit: 1 Corinthians 3:3  
Because of having the nature of flesh (under its influence)  
Actions are no different than the world's.  
Not a good representation of how Christ wants His church to look.

### **CONTRARY TO CHRIST'S MESSAGE:**

John 17:21-23: Christ's prayer for His people was just the opposite for oneness.  
So the world would believe  
A powerful witness to the world.

### **OTHER SCRIPTURES RELATING:**

1 Corinthians 1:13: Unity again: the unity of His body is not to be cut in pieces

John 10:16: Jesus letting the Jews know He was not there for them exclusively.  
He had other sheep. His mission is world-wide. Jesus refuses to be limited by the "fences" we may build.

1 Corinthians 12:13-25: The church is composed of many types of people from a variety of backgrounds. Sometimes it may become too easy for these differences to divide people. Realization should be all believers have one thing in common: faith in Jesus Christ. That is where unity should come.

Luke 11:17: A house divided will not stand. Also recorded in Matthew 12:25 and Mark 3:24

Romans 14:19: Pursue edifying and building up. Don't be a stumbling block to others.

Romans 16:17: Be on guard for those who create divisions and have offenses. Look sharply after those who would do evil and avoid them.

Titus 3:10: Avoid people with an individual self-will.  
One who desires to teach what he/she chooses and would be independent of the teaching and practices of the church. One who holds fundamental error of doctrines.

Proverbs 26:21: A quarrelsome person will kindle strife.

Proverbs 6:16-19: A list of six things God hates.

Verse 19: one who sows discord which causes strife and divisions.