

# 24-0630a - Detailed Summary

## 24-0630a - *The Mystery of Unity*, Scott Reynolds

**Bible Readers:** Kevin Woosley and Roger Raines

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(Sermon Notes by Scott Reynolds)

## The Mystery of Unity

Summary of Transcript (0:03 - 30:19)

### Scripture Readings:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading (0:03 - 0:39), Kevin Woosley

##### Scripture Read: Ephesians 2:19-22

- Believers are no longer strangers or foreigners but are now citizens with the saints and members of God's household.
- The Church is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ as the cornerstone, forming a holy temple where God dwells by His Spirit.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading (0:44 - 1:39), Roger Raines

##### Scripture Read: 1 Corinthians 6:17

- Those who join themselves to the Lord become one spirit with Him.

## Summary

**Preacher:** Scott Reynolds

#### (1:14 - 1:39) Purpose of the Readings

The [following] readings are intended to set the context for the lesson on equipping the saints for works of service.

#### (1:40 - 4:19) Ephesians 4 and Sermon Development

##### Scripture Read: Ephesians 4:11-16,

- Discusses the roles Christ gave to equip the saints for service, leading to unity in faith and maturity in Christ.

##### Sermon Preparation Challenges:

- The speaker discusses the difficulty in sermon development, describing a "just-in-time" approach to sermon creation.

- Notes that late development often leads to new, unexpected insights.

#### (4:21 - 6:11) **Expansion on Ephesians 4:11-16**

##### **Original Plan vs. New Insight:**

- Initially focused on the equipping of saints until unity and maturity are achieved.
- On Friday (two days before sermon due), influenced by Del Tackett's "The Truth Project," the speaker connects the "mystery of unity" (unio mystica) with the "unity of the faith" from Ephesians, which wasn't previously considered.

#### (6:13 - 10:35) **Historical Context and Unity in Faith**

##### **Historical Reflection on Church Unity:**

- References Henry Halley's critique on denominationalism, noting that despite centuries, the church lacks visible unity due to human pride and selfishness.
- Quotes Ephesians 4:1-6 emphasizing humility, patience, and maintaining unity in the Spirit.

#### (10:35 - 11:45) **Scriptural Unity**

##### **Unity in Ephesians:**

- Recites Ephesians 4:4-6, highlighting the oneness in body, Spirit, hope, Lord, faith, baptism, and God.
- Commentary by David Lipscomb and J. W. Shepherd interprets these verses as a call for unity within the local church, not denominational union.

#### (11:45 - 15:21) **Marriage as a Type of Unity**

##### **Marriage Analogy:**

- Introduces the analogy of marriage to illustrate the unity between Christ and the church, based on Ephesians 5:22-32.
- Describes how husbands and wives are types foreshadowing Christ (husband) and the church (wife).

#### (15:22 - 22:58) **The Mystery of Unity**

##### **Mystery Explained:**

- Discusses the profound mystery where the union of husband and wife represents Christ's relationship with the church.
- Quotes Genesis 2:24 to emphasize the "one flesh" concept in marriage, extending it to the spiritual unity between Christ and the church.
- Paul in 1 Corinthians 6 warns against sexual immorality by likening believers' bodies to parts of Christ's body, not to be united inappropriately.

## (23:04 - 30:19) Continued Discussion on Unity with Christ

### **Mystery of Union:**

- Highlights the scriptural reference to "one flesh" in unauthorized unions as also being sinful because they do not reflect the true unity Christ has with His church.
- The union of a husband and wife symbolizes the spiritual union of Christ with His church, where believers become one with Him in spirit.

### **Spiritual Implications:**

- Believers' bodies are described as temples of the Holy Spirit, emphasizing the indwelling of God in those united with Christ.
- This union is not only about redemption but also about an intimate relationship with the Trinity.

### **Baptism and Union:**

- Discusses the unity with Christ through baptism, where one is united in His death and resurrection, leading to the reception of the Holy Spirit.

### **Contrast with Temptation:**

- Contrasts Satan's promise to Adam and Eve with the reality of God's union with man, suggesting that the actual union with God surpasses any false promises of divinity.

### **Unity in Faith:**

- Calls for unity among believers, not just against church splits or denominations, but in submission to Christ, who is the head of the church.

### **Return to Ephesians 2:**

- Reiterates the scripture where Christ preaches peace, leading to unity and citizenship in God's household, with Christ as the cornerstone.

### **Building on Christ's Foundation:**

- References the foundation metaphor from 1 Corinthians, questioning what should be built upon Christ's foundational work, suggesting the construction of a holy temple for God's Spirit.

### **Future Sermon Topic:**

- Announces the next sermon will explore the idea of building holy temples within believers.

### **Closing Thoughts:**

- Poses a thought-provoking question about whether the heavenly mansion prepared for believers might relate to the quality of the spiritual temple they build on earth in their lives.