

## **The Long, Hard Road: a Problem for Unity**

*"If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. If a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand."*

*Mark 3:24-25*

### **Unity is essential** to KenoCC's success in mission

*By our unity & love, the world can see God sent Jesus & we're His disciples. By their lack, they see neither.*

*Each of us must "be diligent to preserve unity," and "see to it that no root of bitterness springs up."*

*"That you may be filled up to all the fullness of God."*

*Unity is in Christ, God's Word, not in men, opinions, theories.*

*God would offer reconciliation through each of us just like He offered reconciliation to each of us in Christ.*

*Covering and Correcting are two practices that are essential to unity, and both must be practiced together.*

*Loyalty to God and His overarching will must trump loyalty to any man, movement, or method.*

### **When Unity Can't be Had**

*"Do you suppose that I came to grant peace on earth? I tell you, no, but rather division; for from now on five members in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three. "They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." Luke 12:51-53*

### **God's Kingdom Will Have "Tares"**

*The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away. Matthew 13:24-25*

*Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?' But he said, 'No; for while you are gathering the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them. Allow both to grow together until the harvest . . . ' Matthew 13:28-30*

## **Tares Fight the Wheat (Faithless v. Faithful)**

**Pisidian Antioch:** Jews saw crowds, were filled with jealousy, contradicted Paul . . . incited devout women & leading men, in stigated persecution against Paul & Barnabas, drove them out of the district. Acts 13:45, 50

**Iconium:** Jews who disbelieved stirred up minds of Gentiles & embittered them against brethren. Acts 14:2

**Thessalonica:** Jews became jealous, formed wicked mob from market place, set the city in an uproar, attacked Jason's house, sought to hand them over to the mob. Acts 17:5

**Berea:** When the Jews of Thessalonica found out the word of God was proclaimed by Paul, they came there, agitating and stirring up the crowds. Acts 17:13

**Ephesus:** Paul spoke 3 months, but some were hardened & disobedient, he withdrew with the disciples Acts 19:8-9

## **Wheat Fight Tares (Faithful v. Faithless)**

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh . . . 2 Cor 10:3-4 (cf. 6:6-7; Gal 5:13-26; Eph 4:1-6)

## **KenoCC's Original Charter (signed 9/77)**

We the undersigned, present ourselves as charter members of the newly organized KenoCC. We agree together that:

This organization shall have and use the New Testament as its one and only rule of faith and practice.

The terms of admission to this congregation shall be identical to that stated in the gospel; "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The purpose shall be to carry out the command of Christ; "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I command..."