

UNITED WE STAND

JOHN 21:15-17 -Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, *son* of Jonah, do you love Me more than these [others do—with total commitment and devotion]?"

JOHN 14:15 - "If you [really] love Me, you will keep *and* obey My commandments.

ROMANS 15: 5-7 - ⁵Now may the God who gives endurance and who supplies encouragement grant that you be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus, ⁶so that with one accord you may with one voice glorify *and* praise *and* honor the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Therefore, [continue to] accept *and* welcome one another, just as Christ has accepted *and* welcomed us to the glory of [our great] God.

ACTS 2:37-47 – Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart [with remorse and anxiety], and they said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what are we to do?" ³⁸And Peter said to them, "Repent [change your old way of thinking, turn from your sinful ways, accept and follow Jesus as the Messiah] and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ because of the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is for you and your children and for all who are far away [including the Gentiles], as many as the Lord our God calls to Himself." ⁴⁰And Peter solemnly testified and continued to admonish *and* urge them with many more words, saying, "[a]Be saved from this crooked *and* unjust generation!" ⁴¹So then, those who accepted his message were baptized; and on that day about [b]3,000 souls were added [to the body of believers]. ⁴²They were continually *and* faithfully devoting themselves to the instruction of the apostles, and to fellowship, to [c]eating meals together and to prayers.

⁴³A sense of awe was felt by [d]everyone, and many wonders and signs (attesting miracles) were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all those who had believed [in Jesus as Savior] [e]were together and had all things in common [considering their possessions to belong to the group as a whole]. ⁴⁵And they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing the proceeds with all [the other believers], as anyone had

need. ⁴⁶Day after day they met in the temple [area] continuing with one mind, and breaking bread in various private homes. They were eating their meals together with joy and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God *continually*, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord kept adding to their number daily those who were being saved.

CLOSING SCRIPTURE;

PHIL 2: 1- 11 - Therefore if there is any encouragement *and* comfort in Christ [as there certainly is in abundance], if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship [that we share] in the Spirit, if [there is] any [great depth of] affection and compassion, ²make my joy complete by being of the same mind, having the same ^[a]love [toward one another], knit together in spirit, intent on one purpose [and living a life that reflects your faith and spreads the gospel—the good news regarding salvation through faith in Christ]. ³Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit [through factional motives, or strife], but with [an attitude of] humility [being neither arrogant nor self-righteous], regard others as more important than yourselves. ⁴Do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵Have this same attitude in yourselves which was in Christ Jesus [look to Him as your example in selfless humility], ⁶who, although He existed in the form *and* unchanging essence of God [as One with Him, possessing the fullness of all the divine attributes—the entire nature of deity], did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped *or* asserted [as if He did not already possess it, or was afraid of losing it]; ⁷but emptied Himself [without renouncing or diminishing His deity, but only temporarily giving up the outward expression of divine equality and His rightful dignity] by assuming the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men [He became completely human but was without sin, being fully God and fully man]. ⁸After He was found in [terms of His] outward appearance as a man [for a divinely-appointed time], He humbled Himself [still further] by becoming obedient [to the Father] to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹For this reason also [because He obeyed and so completely humbled Himself], God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus ^[b]EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW [in submission], of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue will confess *and* openly acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord (sovereign God), to the glory of God the Father.