

# The Tuning

I always try to get the mind of God on what I am to write about in my “Corner” article. Through the week the Lord spoke to me a little on the fear of the Lord, and He spoke some about the sword of the Spirit. Although what He showed me about the sword of the Spirit, and how it is the Spirit who wields it, was an inspiration to me, I still asked the Lord before going to sleep what He would like me to write about. I believe He answered.

Kind of a strange title, I know, but I had a dream that ultimately led me here. :) In my dream I was visiting a couple. The couple had a Jezebel/Ahab relationship. Jezebel was dominant and Ahab submitted for the sake of harmony in the relationship. In the home, also visiting, was a known betrayer. I observed Jezebel, who thought she was right, forcing herself into a chair where Ahab was already sitting. The chair only had room for one. Ahab was very uncomfortable, but he didn’t stop her from squashing him; he only moved slightly, so that he could bear the weight. Jezebel appeared to be a little “off,” her eyes didn’t look normal—her mind may not have been functioning properly as she forced herself into the chair. I felt sad for what was happening. I was also very uncomfortable, so I left as quickly as I could. The betrayer left just before me. This still doesn’t explain the title, *The Tuning*, but a video I watched that popped up on Facebook last night had a very famous guitar player—a master of guitar who was allotted only five minutes to try out a guitar; he still spent over two minutes tuning the guitar before he began to play; this morning it made me think of how our Master desires for us to be in tune with Himself and with each other. More on this follows, taking both the dream and the tuning into consideration.



**The mindset of the flesh is hostile to God because it does not submit to God’s law. Indeed, it is unable to do so. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him.** (Romans 8:7-9 CSB)

If we are truly born from above, we have the Spirit of Christ. We have been instructed at church to gauge our spiritual maturity by the fruit of the Spirit present in our lives as listed in Galatians 5. Do we have a spirit of love (the first on the list)? Mike taught about this Sunday. The spirit of agape love is the spirit of self-sacrifice—the Spirit of Christ. We are also told about the spirit of self-control, or a sound mind, in some translations. This is an often quoted, very familiar verse:

**For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love, and sound judgment.** (2 Timothy 1:7 CSB)

In looking at this verse we see that the spirit is a gift. None of the translations of *sound judgment*, *sound mind*, or *self-control* is really in disagreement with the mouth of God, as illustrated in numerous

Proverbs, as well as in life itself. It is apparent that all three are necessary to effectively be in God's will and order.

**Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. He did this to present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless.**

(Ephesians 5:24-27 CSB)

We see in this verse God's order for marriage, but breeze over another matter. Now, God's order is important. It is the only order that works perfectly for His creation, (Most of us have found this out the hard way), but His order is so important to Him that **He gifted us** with a spirit of self-control—a sound mind. If something is sound, it is solid, firm and stable; and can be relied upon. The other matter is seeing the Spirit of Christ in this verse He “gave himself for her.” The spirit of self-giving is the Spirit of Christ. Do we have it? He “self-gave” without limits!

**If we are in Christ**, and we are,

(See verses 2 Corinthians 5:17, Ephesians 2:10; there are many others.)

**If Christ is in us**, and He is,

(See verses Romans 8:10, Galatians 2:20, and Colossians 1:27, for a few.)

**If we have the mind of Christ**, and we are told we do,

“For **who has known the Lord's mind, that he may instruct him?**

But we have the mind of Christ.” (1 Corinthians 2:16 CSB)

**then we should also be giving ourselves for her—the church**—not the building, but what God is building.

I said it in last weeks article, but it is worth repeating, “**Satan's work is to tear down everything the Lord wants built up, and to build up everything the Lord wants torn down.**” We see so much of this in the world today from people whose minds aren't functioning properly, who have no self-control. Satan is totally opposed to God's order and God's purpose, but he will not prevail against the church. So why do so many let him?

Consider these two verses from Psalm 133 from the Amplified Bible:

**Behold, how good and how pleasant it is**

**For brothers to dwell together in unity!**

**It is like the precious oil [of consecration] poured on the head,**

**Coming down on the beard,**

**Even the beard of Aaron,**

**Coming down upon the edge of his [priestly] robes [consecrating the whole body].**

There are a few versions that translate *unity* as *harmony* in this Psalm, but the majority that I checked today translate using the word *unity*. This is one place where the CSB disappoints me because I think there is an important difference. Unity is united as one, whereas, harmony could just be a place where we walk together without stepping on each other's toes—in peace, but not in perfection, perhaps even in compromise. I see unity as being one. Let me illustrate:

There was a time when I tried my hand at tuning pianos. What most don't know about the note they hear as one note from a piano is that it is achieved by tuning three strings in

unison. (Sometimes only two strings on the lower notes.) If when these three strings are struck by a single “hammer” at the same time even one of the three strings is slightly off, or *out of tune* with the others, it produces an audible aggravating “beat.” When tuning, the beats accelerate as the string is brought closer in pitch to the others until unity is achieved. At this point the beats disappear, and they sound as one string. Like the well-tuned piano which produces beautiful music, the church—the bride of Christ to be beautiful must have the unity provided by Christ in each member of His body. (Harmony in music is also part of the beauty, so maybe I will put a hold on my disappointment with the CSB.) The unity provided by Christ is in the order of the Creator. In this order there is neither spot, nor blemish. Harmony is good in many relationships, but it could be a compromise when it comes to the Spirit of God, the order of God, and our most important relationship—*with Him*.

Notice in Psalm 133 above, the anointed body is beneath the anointed head. Quite a picture here! Do we really want the anointing—a powerful anointing in our churches? I know many of us do and are praying for the unity of the church, even our church—NUMA. In the third verse it is described as the place where the Lord has commanded the blessing. It is interesting that Psalm 133 is one of what are noted to be the Psalms of Ascents. These were sung by brothers in unity, at least in unity on their journey, Jewish pilgrims on their way **upward** to Jerusalem for holy festivals three times each year.

How important unity is to Christ is also emphasized in His “High Priestly Prayer” in John 17 (CSB):

Verse 11, **“I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by your name that you have given me, so that they may be one as we are one.”**

Verse 21-23, **“I have given them the glory you have given me, so that they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me, so that they may be made completely one, that the world may know you have sent me and have loved them as you have loved me.”**

A large part of why the world doesn’t know and believe that truth that God sent Jesus is because of the lack of unity, and a lack of the counterpart of God’s design for unity which is holiness. The church at large, or should I say what calls itself “church,” did not maintain unity or holiness as **it let go of accountability as well as church discipline**. Nobody is expected to answer to anyone for anything. Both are needed to protect God’s interests and purposes. Can we not be faithful to our brothers and sisters in unity, and not ditch them when something rubs us the wrong way? A loving Father disciplines His children. It hurts, but it is necessary.

Biblehub.com said in its overview of one of the words for unity that we have been looking at, #H3162 *yachad*, **“... it portrays corporate identity, simultaneous action, covenant solidarity, and ultimately the divine intention that God’s people live, worship, suffer, and rejoice in unity.”**

We will be in tune with the Lord Jesus. Why not be in tune now?

“It takes what it takes,” and no matter what it takes, we will have unity through You, Lord! You prayed for it! We shall have it!