

ONE HEART AND ONE SOUL

What does it mean to be of one heart and one soul? That should be our experience.

Uncommon community

Acts 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

Something very special and unique happened in this first church community. People had possessions but they did not claim ownership. Some later Christian communities have tried to emulate this without lasting success. There seemed to be a spontaneity and necessity in the first church.

However, no one can say that their attitude was of a temporary nature because all Christians of all times should have an uncommon love and care for each other.

Uncommon grace

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Luke, the writer, was not so much as proving precedence, but recording the birth of a new and powerful movement of God. When God moves there are great miracles and great grace, "great" not meaning large but many and wonderful.

Uncommon generosity.

34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

When people see God bigger, they want to be bigger. Poverty ends when people give themselves to God. In that church there were no people that lacked.

Uncommon distribution

35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

There was organization and distribution but it was not according to equality, or according to how hard someone worked, but according to need.

Uncommon men

**36 And Joses, who by the apostles was surnamed Barnabas, (which is, being interpreted, The son of consolation,) a Levite, and of the country of Cyprus,
37 Having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet.**

Some gifts were very large and noted by all. Joses/Barnabas' gift was unusually large which news of, probably earned him a lot of respect and there were some people who wanted the same respect without showing the same generosity.

"Need, equal, and same," have different meanings.

Acts 04_32-37a				

Acts 04_32-37b				



