

## Mark 3:25

**"And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.**

It seems that the one thing the church has mastered in the past two thousand years, is it's skill to stand, no matter how shaky its foundation, because of it's refusal to unite in worship with the rest of the Body of Christ. Instead of focusing on the fruits of the Spirit in our own lives as we are exhorted in **Galatians 5:22-23**; we have become elitists, separatists and egotists on the things of God. Believers have learned every reason not to find a church to worship in. People are so paranoid today, that our communities are full of men, women and families who never gather in corporate worship, because they have heard every reason to disqualify a church. Church attendance is at an all time low; even though 87% of all Americans claim to be Christians. When I was in Bible College, I had a professor say that, "If you are looking for the perfect church, then you need to die and go to heaven, because it isn't here on earth." He also went on to say, "If you are looking for the perfect pastor, then you need to die and go to heaven, because he isn't here either." If only the church could come to the same maturity and wisdom that our late President John F. Kennedy did, when he spoke to our nation one day and said, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." Can you imagine what would happen to this world if the church really took that advice and applied it to their Christian lives? We would have a nation that would turn this world upside down for Jesus Christ! Instead, we have come to believe that the Christian walk is one about blessings and prosperity, and that suffering and cost is for the less informed. People have learned to accept that it really doesn't matter if you go to a church, as long as you claim to love Jesus with all of your heart. They have callously placed Jesus down in the middle if not the bottom of their priorities; yet if you asked them they would certainly tell you how He is first in their lives! Christians in general are more concerned with their creature comforts, than they are with whether or not a neighbor, friend or family member is saved. We are so afraid to offend anyone that we have simply learned to love them straight to hell.

We have replaced a relationship with the Savior, with religious traditions. Where has all of this religious tradition taken us? Today we have even grown so arrogant that committees are formed to decide whether someone is acceptable to worship with them. I'm sure your financial gift will be welcomed there, even if your presence isn't!! Have we forgotten that we are ALL sinners saved by grace? Or do we believe that we have somehow evolved into people who only need a little bit of forgiveness, because our righteousness is so close to heavenly standards? Consider with me **Psalms 133:1, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!** If you ask me, Satan has done a marvelous job at fracturing the church. Today, main stream denominations have become so discombobulated, that they are broken down to two to three hundred minor denominations within. Unity, what unity? Church what will it take for you and me to start obeying ALL of God's Word; another financial depression, another 911, a family member getting sick, or your spouse leaving you? Why is it that we need a major crisis to turn us back to the only one who has never left or betrayed us? What will it take for you to go to church this week, to tithe, to forgive, to love and to obey?