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"He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.

Colossians 1:18

"Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

#### A House Divided Will Not Stand

Jesus built one Ekklesia upon his rock, Petra-Peter, to be the Kingdom of God on earth as it is in Heaven. He never intended it to be split into 40,000 different brands. But here we are.... Ever so divided.

"But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them:
'Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation,
and every city or house divided against itself will not stand."

Matthew 12:25

Saint Paul the Apostle described our diversity as one body (of Christ) with many parts.

"There is one body, but it has many parts. But all its many parts make up one body.

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It is the same with Christ.

We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit.

And so we are formed into one body.

It didn't matter whether we were Jews or Gentiles,

We were all given the same Spirit to drink.

slaves or free people.

So the body is not made up of just one part.

It has many parts."

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

The Call of Intercessors In These Times

As our Christian Faith undergoes its own Passion, attacked spiritually and physically, we are called to stand in Faith and in unity with our fellow brothers and sisters in the Faith, that one day we shall be united in and with Christ Jesus Messiah.

"They aren't connected anymore to the head, who is Christ.

But the whole body grows from the head.

The muscles and tendons hold the body together.

And God causes it to grow."

Colossians 2:19

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Dear Heavenly Father, I lift up to You the Body of Christ, the Ekklesia, that your Son Jesus Christ Yeshua, established to set the captives free here on earth. We are under siege like never before. From invasion by hostile religions, by global genocide, by infiltration into the highest ranks of church hierarchies, infiltration across many or most Christian denominations.

Heavenly Father, we rebuke these infiltrations. We rebuke the filth, lies and deceit. We rebuke and reject their ungodly agendas. We ask for your hand of Grace and Mercy to strengthen us, to build us up in the most holy of faith as we stand our ground against the evil deceivers; to prepare the way of our Lord Jesus Christ Yeshua, that the governments shall rest upon His shoulders. Amen.

#### Fortify the Body of Christ Through Love

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, the adversary has worked relentlessly for the past 2,000 years to sabotage and destroy what your Son Jesus Yeshua came to bring humanity. He has divided in order to conquer. He has deceived in order to dominate. He has manipulated in order to control. To conquer, dominate, control and destroy souls that are destined to come home to You. We stand against these plans and schemes of satan! We rebuke them now!
- ◆ As 1 Corinthians 12:22-24 instructs us that there are many different parts to the Body of Christ: "The parts of the body that seem to be weaker are the ones we can't do without. The parts that we think are less important we treat with special honor. The private parts aren't shown. But they are treated with special care. The parts that can be shown don't need special care. But God has put together all the parts of

# TO STAND IN FAITH

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the body. And he has given more honor to the parts that didn't have any."

- ✦ Heavenly Father, help us to recognize and respect the "weaker parts we can't do without" perhaps those who are living in quiet, humble service to You and the Body of Christ but do not seek out attention, spotlight or vainglory. I repent for any time or way that I did not honor these parts of your Body of Christ.
- ◆ Romans 12:4-5 confirms: "For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another."
- ◆ 1 Corinthians 12:25-27 says: "In that way, the parts of the body will not take sides. All of them will take care of one another. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honored, every part shares in its joy. You are the body of Christ. Each one of you is a part of it."
- ◆ Dear Abba Father, fill my heart with lovingkindness, understanding and compassion for my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus; to fulfill our Lord's greatest commandment to love one another as He has loved us.
- ◆ For 1 Corinthians 12:31 confirms that it is through genuine Christ-love, that "each part is honored": "But now I will show you the best way of all" the Way of Love.

Jesus is Our Unifying Peace, Shalom

◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word tells us that Jesus is our Peace, Your Incarnate Word IS our Shalom — that which destroys barriers and brings us unity in the Faith.

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- ◆ Colossians 3:15 calls us: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful."
- ◆ As Ephesians 2:14-16 exhorts: "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility."
- ◆ Dear Lord God, forgive us for the ways that we as the Body of Christ have worked against the "one new humanity" that Jesus Christ came to create. Help us to discern with love; to possess wisdom without the judgement that is in your hands; to admonish and instruct with kindness and humility; to connect spirit to spirit with our brethren in the Faith.
- ◆ Ephesians 2:17-20 tells us that the Holy Spirit is the agency through which we share our common heritage in God our Father: "He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."
- ◆ Ephesians 2:21-22 concludes: "In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit."
- → Help us Heavenly Father, to rise together to become a holy temple in the Lord Jesus Yeshua, so that no weapon formed against our Faith shall prosper; so that all infiltration and infiltrators shall be cast out; so that by some miracle of Love itself, we shall become unified as "one

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new humanity" in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

One Body, One Spirit

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, if "unity" weren't declared throughout Your Word, we could easily ignore it as a call from your heart to ours. It's easier to be in division; it's easier to be in a sense of superiority to other denominations of the Christian Faith. But Jesus told us the most critical virtue necessary for entrance into your Kingdom is humility.
- ◆ As Ephesians 4:2-6 instructs us: "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." You love ALL of your children, even if we struggle to do so. But because we are created as your workmanship, it is our ultimate destiny to love the whole Body of Christ.
- → Jesus equipped the Body of Christ so that very same Body would establish unity in the Faith; according to Ephesians 4:11-13: "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."
- ◆ This unity is not just for heavenly purposes, but for practical earthly purposes; so that we would not be thrown all over and broken apart, but be strengthened and matured. As Ephesians 4:14-16 declares: "Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. Instead, speaking

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the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

◆ Lord Jesus Christ, build me up in YOUR love, a love that surpasses human understanding; a love that is beyond the personal and carnal mind; a love that You left as an inheritance for all of us to embody.

#### In Shared Suffering, We Unite In Love

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, it is surely true that people that share in a suffering battle, loss, grief, come out with a deeper bond of love and loyalty to each other. So too with the Body of Christ, as we see our fellow brethren slaughtered in places like Nigeria, we all feel the pain of their martyrdom. Around the world, we share in the feelings of grief at the loss of Charlie Kirk; a demonstration that we truly ARE one Body of Christ.
- ◆ Colossians 1:24 says: "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body, which is the church, in filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions." "What is lacking in Christ's afflictions" seems like a puzzlement because Jesus completed the work of salvation. Yet Christians suffer for Christ Jesus, as the blood of martyrs is the food of the harvest of souls; growing and sanctifying the Body of Christ.
- ◆ 1 Peter 1:6-7 exhorts: "In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."

# TO STAND IN FAITH

#### **SEALING PRAYER**

"There is one body, but it has many parts.

But all its many parts make up one body.

It is the same with Christ.

We were all baptized by one Holy Spirit.

And so we are formed into one body.

It didn't matter whether we were Jews or Gentiles, slaves or free people.

We were all given the same Spirit to drink.

So the body is not made up of just one part.

It has many parts."

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!

And that is what we are!

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known.

But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

1 John 3:1-3