

JAMES 4:1-10



BEING UNITED

In A

DIVISIVE WORLD

BEING UNITED *In A* DIVISIVE WORLD



JAMES 4:1-10 (NKJV)

¹ Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members? ²

You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. ⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

BEING UNITED *In A* DIVISIVE WORLD



DIVISION EXISTS

NATIONS / GOVERNMENTS

WITHIN NATIONS / GOVERNMENTS

BETWEEN RACES / NATIONALITIES

DIFFERING WORLD-VIEWS

DIFFERING STANDARDS OF MORALITY

DIFFERING RELIGIONS

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DIVISION EXISTS

GOD
TRUTH
RIGHT
GOOD
LIGHT
LOVE

The WORLD
Attempts To Solve
The Problem By
Doing Away With &
Rejecting ALL
ABSOLUTES!

SATAN
LIE
WRONG
BAD
DARK
HATE

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DIVISION EXISTS

WE ARE ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER

WITH GOD

ABRAHAM; NOAH;
JOSEPH; ELIJAH;
JEREMIAH; JESUS;
STEVEN; PAUL;

OR

CAIN; ANTEDILUVIAN
WORLD; JOSEPH'S
BROTHERS; AHAB;
JEWS; WORLD ...

AGAINST GOD

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DIVISION EXISTS

WE ARE ON ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER
WITH GOD OR AGAINST GOD

ISAIAH 59:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. ² But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

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THERE IS GREAT POWER IN UNITY
DIVISION BRINGS WEAKNESS

GENESIS 11:6-8 (NIV)

⁶ And the Lord said, "Indeed the people *are* one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. ⁷ Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." ⁸ So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city.

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LUKE 1:51 (NKJV)

⁵¹ He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their hearts.

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DIVISION BRINGS WEAKNESS

MATTHEW 10:34 (NKJV)

34 "Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

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MATTHEW 12:30 (NKJV)

30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.

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MATTHEW 12:25-26 (NKJV)

²⁵ 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. ²⁶ If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

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JAMES 4:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

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PSALM 133:1 (NKJV)

¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity!

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ECCLIESIASTES 4:12 (NKJV)

¹² Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

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DIVISION BRINGS WEAKNESS

AMOS 3:3 (NKJV)

³ Can two walk together,
unless they are agreed?

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Prayer of Jesus –
John 17:20-23

One Body – Acts
2:38-47; 1 Cor
12:12-27; Eph 4:8-16

Plea of Paul –
1 Cor. 1:10-13

Amos 3:3 (NKJV)
Can two walk
together, unless they
are agreed?

Doctrine – Eph 4:4-6;
1 Jn 1:5-10; 2 Jn 9

Attitude – Eph 4:1-3'
Phil 2:1-5; James
3:17,18

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“WHERE DO WARS AND FIGHTS COME FROM AMONG YOU?” - James 3:14-4:4

- ▶ 3:14 - Bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts,
- ▶ 3:15 - Earthly, sensual, demonic - wisdom
- ▶ 4:1 - From your desires for pleasure that war in your members?
- ▶ 4:2 - You lust and do not have - You murder and covet and cannot obtain.
- ▶ 4:3 - you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. -
- ▶ 4:4 - Friendship with the world is enmity with God?



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“WHERE DO WARS AND FIGHTS COME FROM AMONG YOU?” - James 3:14-4:4



- ▶ Those who teach a different gospel / doctrine - Gal 1:6-9; Romans 16:17
- ▶ Those who do not abide in the doctrine of Christ - 2 John 9,10; Rev 2:15
- ▶ Those who are immoral - 2 Corinthians 5:1-7; Rev 2:14
- ▶ Those who are greedy - Jos 7; Acts 5:1-4
- ▶ Those who are unfaithful - Numbers 14; Hebrews 3:16-18; 2 Thes 3:14,15
- ▶ Sinful attitudes - (pride; selfishness; greed; hatred; jealousy; etc.) - James 3:14-16; 2 Cor 12:20

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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

1 Corinthians 1:1-13

1 CORINTHIANS 1:10-13 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you, but *that* you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. ¹¹ For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's *household*, that there are contentions among you. ¹² Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." ¹³ Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

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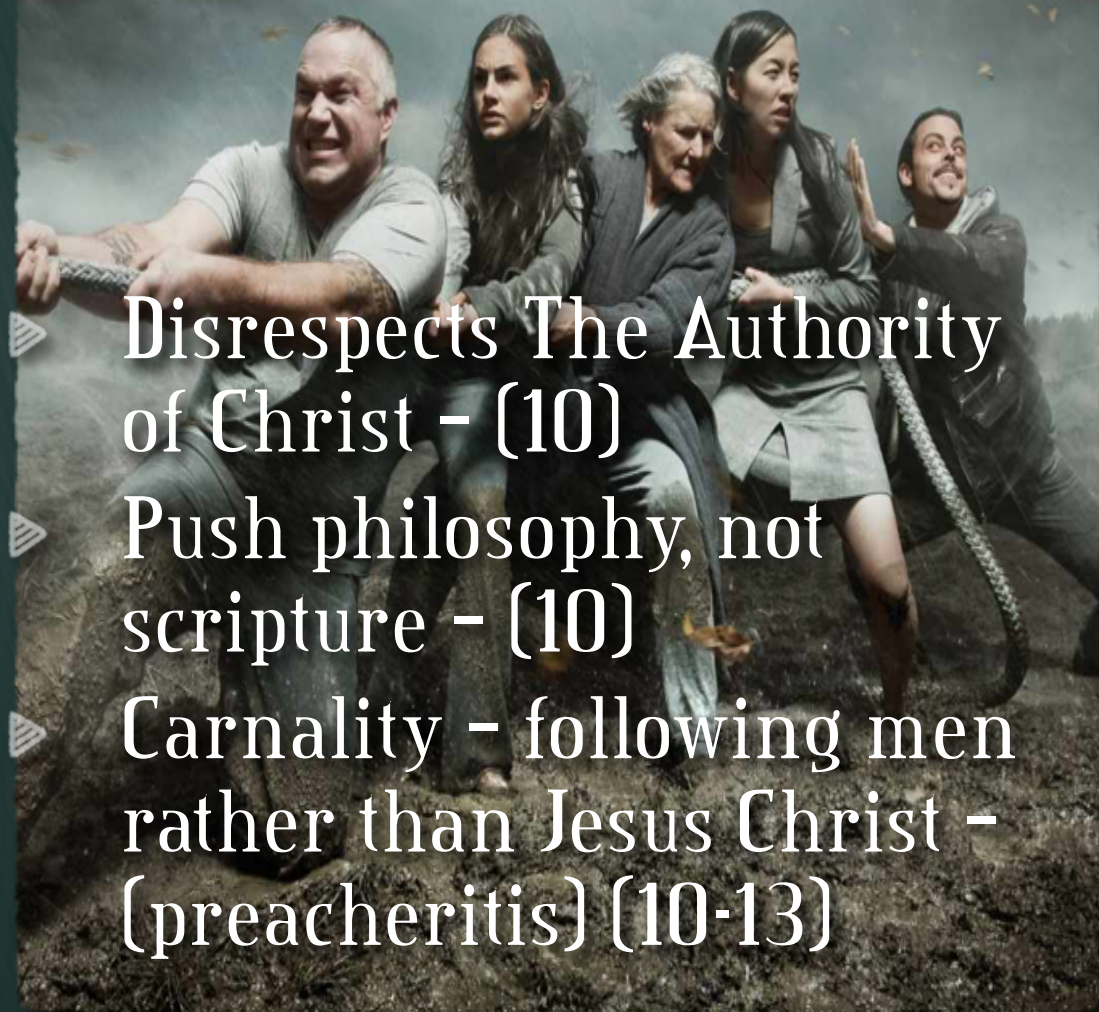
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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

1 Corinthians 1:1-13

THE DIVISIVE WORLD



Disrespects The Authority of Christ - (10)

Push philosophy, not scripture - (10)

Carnality - following men rather than Jesus Christ - (preacheritis) (10-13)

- ▶ Respect The Authority of Christ - (10)
- ▶ Speak where the Bible speaks - (10; cf. 1 Pet 4:11)
- ▶ Have The Same Mind & Judgment - i.e. follow the same leader - Jesus Christ - (10-13)

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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

Philippians 2:1-5

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-5 (NKJV)

¹ Therefore if *there is* any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, ² fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. ³ *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. ⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

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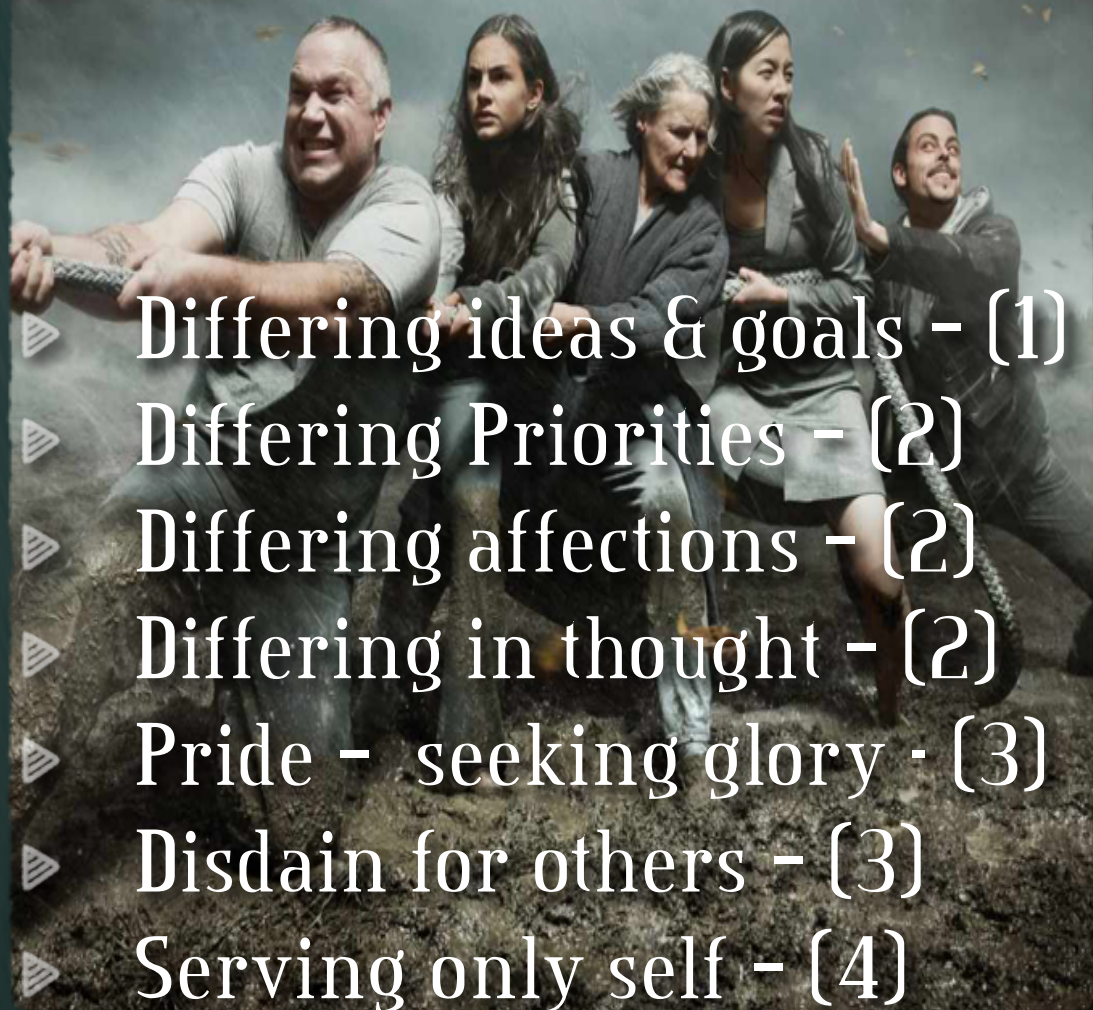
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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

Philippians 2:1-5

THE DIVISIVE WORLD



- ▶ Differing ideas & goals - (1)
- ▶ Differing Priorities - (2)
- ▶ Differing affections - (2)
- ▶ Differing in thought - (2)
- ▶ Pride - seeking glory - (3)
- ▶ Disdain for others - (3)
- ▶ Serving only self - (4)

- ▶ Being like minded - (2)
- ▶ Having the same love - (2)
- ▶ Being of one accord - (2)
- ▶ Being of one mind - (2)
- ▶ Humility in serving - (3)
- ▶ Mutual respect - (3)
- ▶ Serving one another - (4)

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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

James 3:13-17

JAMES 3:13-17 (NKJV)

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct *that* his works *are done* in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵ This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking *exist*, confusion and every evil thing *are* there. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

James 3:13-17

THE DIVISIVE WORLD



▶ Wisdom from below - (13)

▶ Iniquity & impurity - (13,17)

▶ Harshness, rude - (13,17)

▶ Warmongers - (17)

▶ Obstinate - (17)

▶ Unforgiving, evil fruits - (17)

▶ Partiality - (17)

▶ Hypocrisy - (17)

▶ Wisdom from above - (13)

▶ Righteousness & purity - (13,17)

▶ Meekness (gentleness) - (13,17)

▶ Peaceable - (17)

▶ Willing to yield - (17)

▶ Mercy & good fruits - (17)

▶ Impartiality - (17)

▶ Sincerity - (17)

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“SUBMITTING TO JESUS BRINGS UNITY”

James 3:13-17

JAMES 4:1-10 (NKJV)

⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? ⁶ But He gives more grace.

Therefore He says: “*God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.*” ⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and purify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded. ⁹ Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and *your* joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

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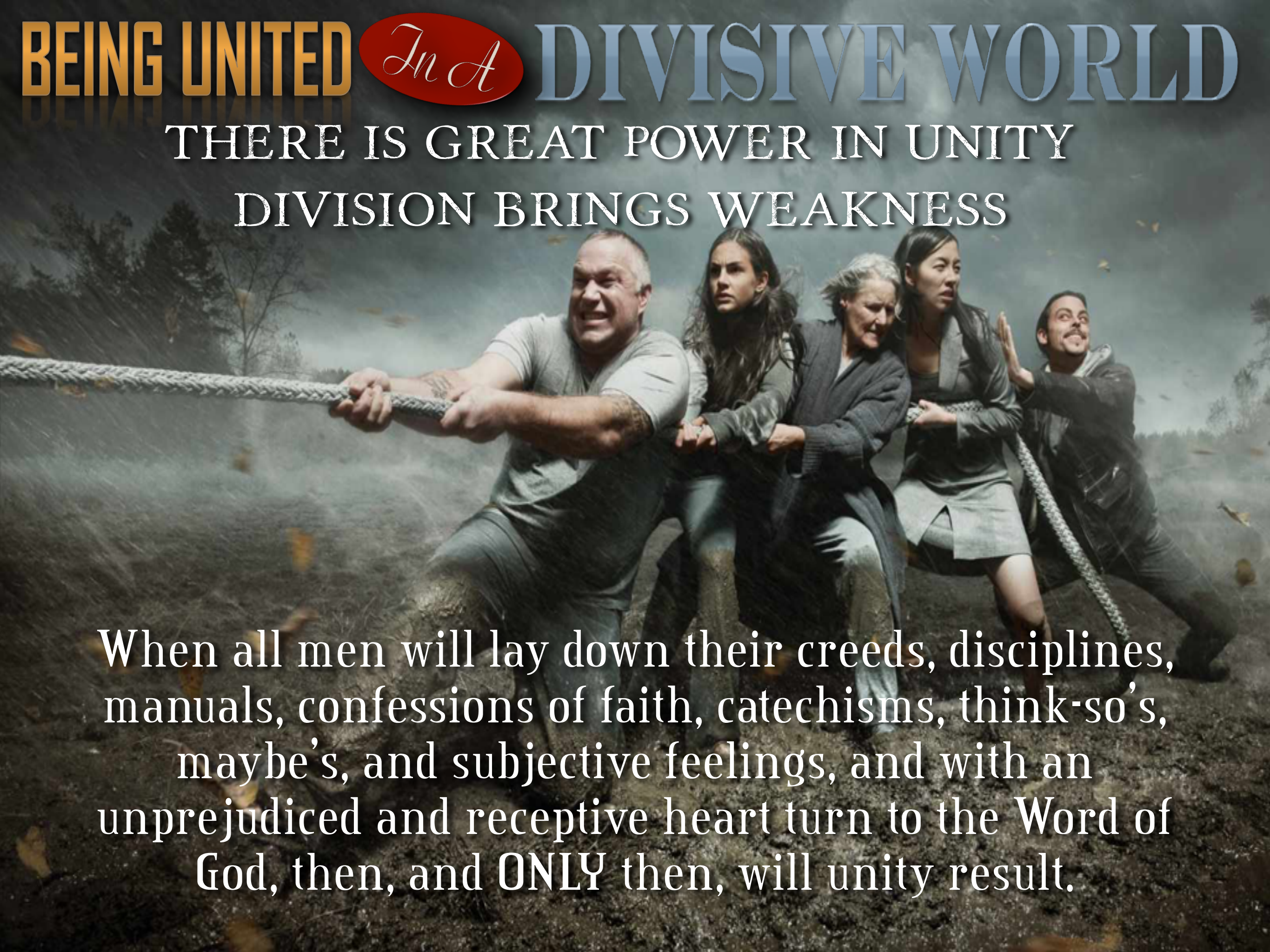
THERE IS GREAT POWER IN UNITY
DIVISION BRINGS WEAKNESS

EPHESIANS 4:1-3 (NKJV)

¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,
² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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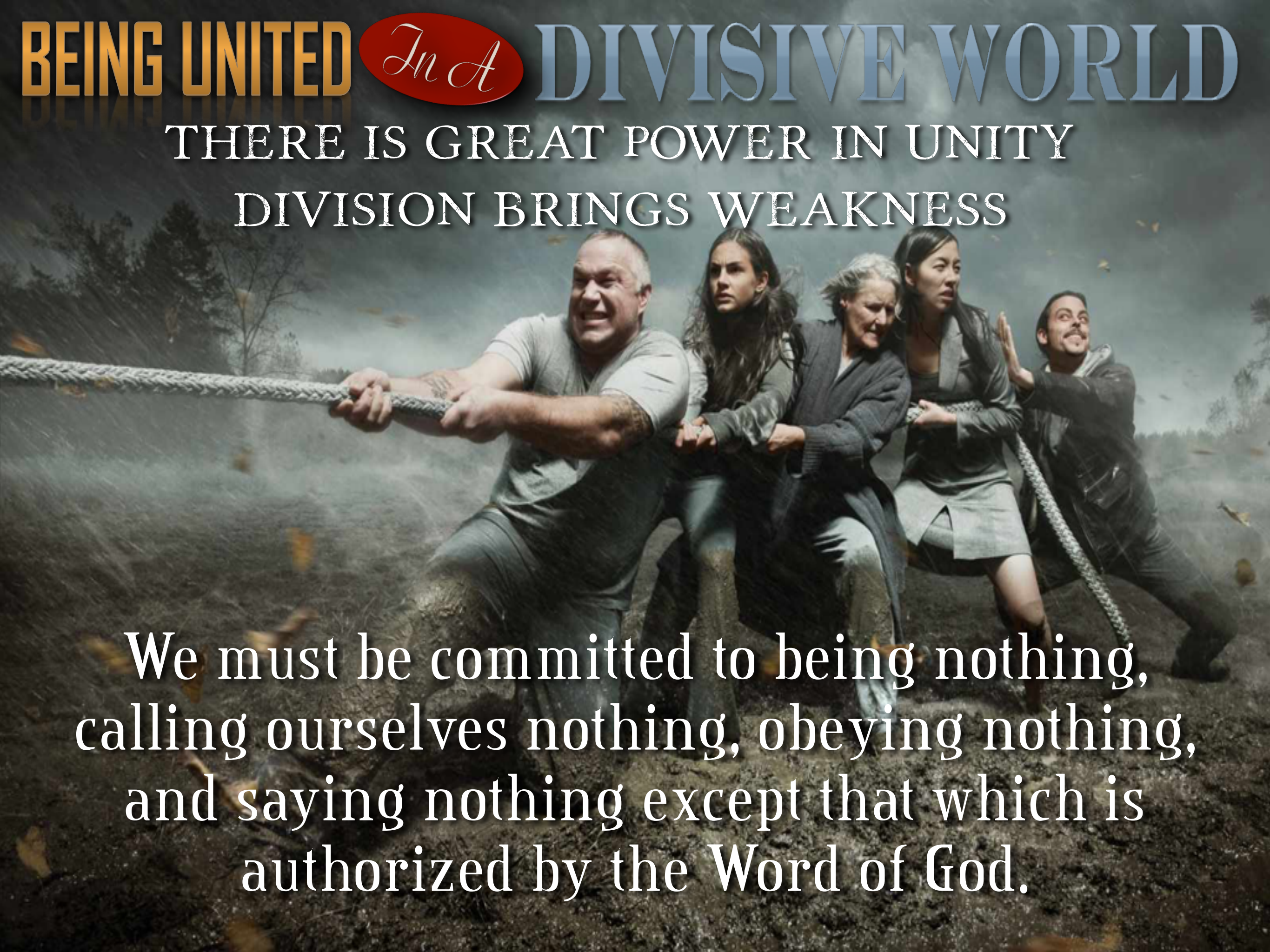
THERE IS GREAT POWER IN UNITY
DIVISION BRINGS WEAKNESS

A group of five diverse people (three men and two women) are shown from the waist up, pulling on a thick, light-colored rope. They are all leaning forward with effort, their faces showing concentration and strain. The background is a dark, misty, and somewhat desolate landscape with some trees and falling leaves, suggesting a challenging environment. The overall tone is one of teamwork and overcoming adversity.

When all men will lay down their creeds, disciplines, manuals, confessions of faith, catechisms, think-so's, maybe's, and subjective feelings, and with an unprejudiced and receptive heart turn to the Word of God, then, and ONLY then, will unity result.

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We must be committed to being nothing,
calling ourselves nothing, obeying nothing,
and saying nothing except that which is
authorized by the Word of God.

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JAMES 4:1-10 (NKJV)

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