**Glory Expanded**

**John 17:20-26**

***20****“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,****21****that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.****22****The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,* ***23****I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.****24****Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.* ***25****O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me.****26****I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”* John 17:20-26

I. Through The WITNESS Of The Word

*I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word*

II. To The WATCHING Of The World

*That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*

**The Unity Of The Church Is…**

* **JESUS CENTERED**
* **FAITH BASED**
* **WORD ROOTED**
* **GRACE IMPARTED**
* **GLORY PURPOSED**

*Solo Christo*

*Sola Fide*

*Sola Scriptura*

*Sola Gratia*

*Soli Deo Gloria*



*The Glory of a True Church*

*and its Discipline Display'd*

*Wherein a True Gospel-Church is Described.*

*Together with the Power of the Keys,*

*and who are to be let in, and who to be shut out.*

*"And when admitted Members, before the Church they must solemnly enter into a Covenant, to walk in the Fellowship of that particular Congregation, and submit themselves to the Care and Discipline thereof."*

*"Being fully satisfied in the way of Church-Communion, and the Truth of Grace in some good measure upon one another's Spirits, we do solemnly join our selves together in a Holy Union and Fellowship, humbly submitting to the discipline of the Gospel, and all Holy Duties required of a People in such a Spiritual Relation."*

*"Church Discipline,*

*Formative & Corrective;*

*in which is developed*

*The True Philosophy*

*of Religious Education.*

*"The Church Covenant contains a rich and beautiful summary of Christian duties; and contemplates the formation of every member to the highest excellence and loveliness of character. Every member, upon joining the Church, and signing this instrument, pledges himself."*

*A Summary of Church Discipline*

*Shewing the Qualifications and Duties*

*of the Officers and Members*

*of a Gospel Church.*

*"Being thus satisfied with each other's graces and qualifications, and united in the bond of love they should give up themselves to the Lord and to one another by the will of God, by subscribing a written covenant consistent with the Word of God, thereby binding and obliging themselves to be the Lord's, to walk in all his commands and ordinances, and in all respects to behave towards each other as brethren, agreeable to the spiritual relation they now enter into."*

October 14, 1928

The Missionary Baptist church met at Patten Chapel on the above date for the purpose of organizing a church at that place. 9 members had just been baptized into the arm of the Alton Park church. Opportunity was given for members. 4 came forward on the forthcoming of a letter + one by baptism [the] latter making a total of 14 members by which the church was organized at that place.

Bro. T.J. Smith ask[ed] questions on the articles of faith [and] also read the church covenant.

***21****that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.*John 17:21

III. For The WORSHIP Of The Lord

*Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.*

**One Last Thought:** We can press in together toward “MEANINGFUL MEMBERSHIP” with confidence because Jesus is still praying for His church!