

BRINGING UNITY FROM DIVERSITY, PART 1
(Ephesians 4:11)

- I. “He Gave Some [to Be] APOSTLES” (Eph. 4:11*a*; cf. 1 Cor. 12:28)
 - A. Means “One SENT on a MISSION by ANOTHER”
 - B. JESUS was the FATHER’S “Apostle” (Heb. 3:1-2)
 - C. The TWELVE were CHRIST’S “Apostles” (Acts 1:26)
 - 1. Had to have SEEN the RISEN CHRIST
 - 2. Had to have been CHOSEN by CHRIST
 - D. Several were called “apostles” of the CHURCH (Acts 14:4; 1 Cor. 4:6, 9; 15:7; 2 Cor. 8:23; Phil. 2:25; 1 Thes. 2:6; Rom. 16:7)

- II. “He Gave Some [to Be] PROPHETS” (Eph. 4:11*b*)
 - A. Means “One who delivers a MESSAGE from GOD”
 - B. Ministry RESTRICTED to a LOCAL congregation (cf. Acts 13:1)
 - C. COMPLIMENTARY of and SUBORDINATE to the Apostles (1 Cor. 14:37)
 - D. Together, the Apostles and Prophets were GIVEN for three purposes
 - 1. They became the FOUNDATION of the CHURCH (Eph. 2:20)
 - 2. They RECEIVED and DECLARED the revelation of God’s WORD (Eph. 3:5; cf. Acts 11:28; 21:10-11)

3. They confirmed the Word's authenticity and the church's unity through "SIGNS and WONDERS and MIRACLES" (2 Cor. 12:12; cf. Acts 8:6-7; Heb. 2:3-4)

III. "He Gave Some [to Be] EVANGELISTS" (Eph. 4:11*c*)

A. Means "One who PROCLAIMS GOOD NEWS"

1. The FIRST evangelist was GOD (Gal. 3:8)
2. An ANGEL evangelized (Luke 2:10)
3. JESUS evangelized (Luke 20:1)
4. The APOSTLES evangelized (Acts 8:4)

B. They were MISSIONARIES and CHURCH PLANTERS

1. PHILIP was an ITINERANT evangelist (Acts 21:8; cf. 8:4-40)
2. TIMOTHY evangelized in association with a LOCAL church

C. The CHURCH is charged to evangelize

1. The function CONTINUES throughout the church age
2. Some people are GIFTED evangelists

IV. "He Gave Some [to Be] PASTORS and TEACHERS" (Eph. 4:11*d*)

A. Probably a SINGLE office

1. The word "Pastor" means "SHEPHERD"
2. The word "Teacher" describes the PRIMARY FUNCTION of a pastor (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16-17)

B. "BISHOPS" and "ELDERS" refer to the SAME OFFICE (1 Pet. 5:1-2; cf. Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Tim. 3:7 with Titus 1:5, 7)