



### Searching for a Winner: Soul Harmony Must Precede Group Harmony: Development of Unit Integrity in the Double Column Phalanx, 1 Cor 1:10

- 33) All encouragement comes from inculcation of the Word of God. Christian fellowship is not the objective. The objective is allowing each member of the body to do his duty as unto the Lord without interference from others who want everyone to play their tune, their instrument, and at their tempo.
- 34) The source of *esoterike harmonia* is the individual inculcation of Bible doctrine. As a believer advances in the double column phalanx he develops this inner harmony.
- 35) Meanwhile, his fellow believers who are making the advance are also developing their *esoterike harmonia*, or inner harmony.
- 36) This simultaneous advance will gradually evolve into the unit integrity of *exoterike harmonia*: the outer harmony that Paul exhorts in:

**1 Corinthians 1:10** - Now I exhort you, fellow believers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing [from the same inventory of doctrinal ideas], and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be permanently restored to unity [ἐξωτερικὴ ἁρμονία, *exōterikē harmonia*] by means of the same mental attitude [ἐσωτερικὴ ἁρμονία, *esōterikē harmonia*] and the same purpose and intention [the simultaneous advance in the double-column phalanx toward the objectives of spiritual maturity, invisible hero status, and escrow conveyance].

- 37) The development of unit integrity must obviously occur in the ἀγωγή, *agōgē*, or boot camp. All cadets systematically show up at the same place, at the same time, and receive the same instructions regarding the axioms of warfare.
- 38) For believers, the boot camp is the local church and each believer is mandated to consistently assemble himself with other believers for his spiritual instruction.
- 39) The development of *esoterike harmonia* is done privately but within the context of a group. Each cadet grows in grace but at his own pace under the mentorship of the drill instructor.
- 40) The drill instructor for the believer is the Holy Spirit who teaches him privately, informs him of the mystery doctrines of the New Testament, and then, through reciprocity, motivates execution and compliance with their requirements and policies.
- 41) The English word “esoteric” comes from the Greek word ἐσωτερικός, *esōterikos*, and means according to:

**Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. “esoteric”:**

Knowledge restricted to a small group. Private.

- 42) By application this implies the private spiritual growth of the individual believer under the mentorship of the Holy Spirit as he develops an inventory of ideas based on the absolute standards of biblical revelation.
- 43) As he accumulates these doctrines his soul becomes gradually more ordered and he eventually achieves *esoterike harmonia*: inner harmony with God through His Word.
- 44) As order develops in his soul he is also involved in learning how to function within a group. The group is made up of fellow members of the local church. Each positive-volition member is in a similar growth process.



- 45) As they all advance in the double-column phalanx there is the development of group discipline, unit integrity, and economy of force. This is *exoterike harmonia*, or outer harmony with one's fellow believers.
- 46) The English word "exoteric" comes from the Greek word **ἐξωτερικός**, **exōterikos**, and means according to:

**Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, s.v. "exoteric":**

Belonging to the outer or less initiate circle. External.

- 47) Thus, that which is esoteric to the individual believers in the local church becomes a system of thought shared by all in the group thus leading to unit integrity or "exoteric harmony."
- 48) This kind of harmony is difficult to achieve even in a local church where all are believers, where all subscribe to the same systematic theology, and where all are empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- 49) It is extremely difficult to achieve such harmony in a nation where the population is made up of a predominance of unbelievers whose adherence to the laws of divine establishment varies from strict compliance to criminal behavior.
- 50) However, it is absolutely impossible to sustain national harmony when the historical trends run toward Enlightenment concepts that reject the essential absolute standards established by the laws of divine establishment, Bible doctrine, and the traditions of previous generations.