

What Are The  Principles?

Heb. 5:12



# Principles

## I. Examples

A. general Heb. 5:14; 2 Pet. 3:16

B. specific Heb. 7-10; 1 Tim. 3, 4; 1 Cor. 8:7-8



# Principles

## II. Some purposes

A. Tests commitment Heb. 5:14; 11:6

B. Constant need to learn and practice

2 Pet. 1:8; 2 Tim. 2:15

C. May identify the “unapproved” 1 Cor. 11:19;

Ti. 1:16

D. A glimpse of God’s wisdom Rom. 11:33-36



# Principles

III. Are they included in God's plan for unity?

A. Many say "No"

"These debates may be important in my congregation, but they are not important to work together and preach the gospel . . . We accept the differences as a richness. It would be very boring if all the churches were the same. Imagine if God made just one flower; that would be boring."

Weber, Jeremy. "Something Better Than Revival."  
*Christianity Today*. June 2010, p38-40.



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"when one believes in Jesus and obeys him in baptism, he is our brother and in the fellowship... That fellowship is strengthened and made joyful by doctrine, but it is the gospel and not doctrine that determines the fellowship..."

(Leroy Garrett, "The Word Abused," Restoration Review, Vol. XVII, No. 3, pp. 42-46)", *ibid*, pp. 54-55.)



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"Millennialism, instrumental music, institutionalism, and divorce and remarriage need not divide us. . . we can still have fellowship in many ways and avoid criticizing one another.

(RUBEL SHELLY ON "THE CHURCH IN THE 90'S" at the Richland Hills Church of Christ in Ft. Worth, TX in the summer of 1990;

Quotations and Summary by Ron Halbhook)



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"Tear down walls. . . celebrate what we have in common" (*The Christian Chronicle*, Feb. 2014)

Comments after a joint worship assembly of the Central Church of Christ, First Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, and United Methodist Church in Amarillo, Texas



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"It is obvious that Christians sometimes disagree about scriptural instruction, even in matters of considerable moral and doctrinal import... In spite of these disagreements, we work and worship together. That behavior... is, I believe, the issue addressed in Romans 14." (Ed Harrell, "The Bounds of Christian Unity," *Christianity Magazine* May 1989, p6)





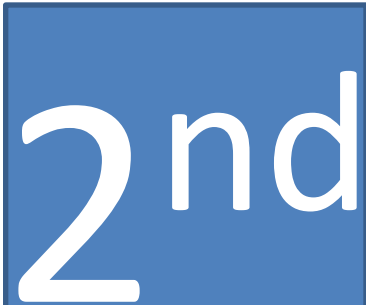
## Principles

III. Are they included in God's plan for unity?

A. Many say "No"

B. Growth is expected Heb. 5:13-14

C. *No other doctrine* 1 Tim. 1:3-7; 4:6; 6:3

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