



163 years ago, Abraham Lincoln understood the principle: A house divided against itself cannot stand. How did this play out?

- *Matthew 12:22-24 Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. 23 All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"*

Mark 2:20 Then Jesus entered a house, and again a crowd gathered, so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. 21 When his family heard about this, they went to take charge of him, for they said, "He is out of his mind." 22 And the teachers of the law who came down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebul! By the prince of demons he is driving out demons."

1. Satan _____ with _____.

What lies did Satan use to dissuade people from following Jesus?

What lies does Satan use today to divide the church?

23 So Jesus called them and spoke to them in parables: "How can Satan drive out Satan? 24 If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. 26 And if Satan opposes himself and is divided, he cannot stand; his end has come.

2. The impact of _____ is _____

How has this truth affected the church in your experience?

27 In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can rob his house.

3. Unity comes when we _____ the _____ of division.

How can we defeat the division Satan seeks to create?

*28 I tell you the truth, all the sins and blasphemies of men will be forgiven them.
29 But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin."
30 He said this because they were saying, "He has an evil spirit."*

4. Unity comes when we _____ to the Spirit, not _____ him.

How do we "keep in step with the Spirit" vs. "blaspheme the Holy Spirit?"

- *Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.*

REFLECT: What is the truth I will take with me today?

RENEW: Holy Spirit, help me to...

RESPOND: Lord, for all you have done for me, I respond with...