

Accord With One Accord

(*ὁμοθυμαδὸν* = 'homothoomadon')

With one mind, with one accord, with one passion.

Acts 2:1, "When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place." **Acts 5:12, "And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch."** The Greek word *ὁμοθυμαδὸν* (*with one accord*) means 'having one mind and purpose' and expresses 'a harmony leading to action'. It is derived from two other ancient Greek words. The one signifies 'at the same place or time together', and the other implies, 'with passion or fierceness (indignation)'. Therefore, being "**of one accord**" is literally 'being at the same place and filled with passion'. Notice how this phrase reflects a quality that is 'active, positive and encouraging', a passion that is missing in most of today's church services. The church tradition of gathering together is generally filled with passive religious complacency, where people are encouraged to meet in an atmosphere of total indifference (an environment that is void of power).

In contrast, whenever the Holy Spirit (as the Spirit of unity) gathers God's people together "**in one accord**" (with a fierce passion), He manifests the perfect and unique characteristics of Jesus the Christ (God's anointed). Being *in one accord* is powerful because we collectively come under the control of the Holy Spirit! He unites us with Christ, and we then have one will, one purpose and one determination, and that is, "*to glorify the Father!*" What's more, we become fiercely passionate in this effort! Unity, harmony and the state of being "**of one accord**", is the responsibility of every believer. Therefore, we must earnestly pursue this condition every time we have church.

Another interesting fact concerning *ὁμοθυμαδὸν* (*with one accord*) is that it is also used in reference to the unbeliever. The word occurs eleven times in the New Testament, ten times in the Book of Acts. However, every time it is used in reference to the unbeliever, a violent angry spirit manifests. In Acts 7:57-58 (after Stephen had addressed the religious council) it says, "*Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord; and they cast him out of the city and stoned him.*" The same violent (indignant) spirit occurred when the Jews rose up against Paul and brought him to the judgment seat (Acts 18:12), and when the people of the city of Ephesus ran into the theatre and seized Paul's companions (Acts 18:29). I liken this kind of 'spirit' to that of an angry crowd at a football match. Suddenly something happens and they come together *with one accord* and a violent indignant spirit manifests. This is very powerful, and as a result, becomes a dangerous situation!