

*ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus

*They Were All of One Heart and Soul

Acts 4:32-37

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The most obvious manifestation of "being of one heart and soul" was that there were no needy among them.

Q: How did this happen?

A: When some believers saw other believers in need they sold their house or land

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1. Everyone didn't sell everything (still ownership in Acts 5:4; 12:12)
2. Rather, they did not claim the things they had to be their own.
3. This was ongoing, "from time to time" (NIV).
4. Not truly utopia, believers continue to sin (chs. 5-6)

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Q: How did this happen?

A: Unity led them to generosity. And it was the gospel that created this unity. (v. 33)

Q: Why did this happen?

A: The promise of the gospel, that is, the guarantee of the Father's love, provides a sense of security that frees Christians from fear so they don't go looking for security elsewhere (Luke 12:32-34).

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure,
Come disaster, scorn and pain
In Thy service, pain is pleasure,
With Thy favor, loss is gain
I have called Thee Abba Father,
I have stayed my heart on Thee
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather;
All must work for good to me.