

What Is the Opposite of  
Edification?



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

Edification is

A building up, a firming up, to establish. To promote your brethren's well being through love.

Edification happens by

Harmony, and the pursuit of it

Calling near, with the goal of hortation

Fully furnishing

To care for deeply, to the pain of sickness

Considering one another

Inciting one another to benevolence and affection and to beautiful action



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

Titus 1 : 4 – 5; 3 : 10

Titus was left to set in order certain things

Elders

The order of the church

The members

“Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition,”

‘aihretikos – a schismatic; factious

tending to cause disagreement or hostility  
between people

“As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him  
once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,” - ESV

If Edification is building up -> Divisiveness is tearing down.



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

To build or not to build, is not the question...How?

I Corinthians 3 : 9 – 10

“God...laid the foundation, and another builds on it.”

“...take heed how he builds on it.”

‘blepo’ – behold, beware

Edification is to build up.

Edification strengthens, provides a good bond, provides beams and supports to carry the load.

This is building wisely.

Divisiveness tears down.

Divisiveness provides disunity, disjointedness, causes instability in the support.

This is building unwisely.



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

## Mark 3 : 22 – 27

“If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.”

Consider Rome – Governmental corruption and political instability are considered 1 of 8 reasons why Rome fell.

“And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.”

Consider the home of today – The current divorce rate is 3.6 of every 6.8 (52.9%). That is nearly 4 out of 7 marriages. In subsequent marriages it is even higher.

Understand the Church – If the Church (Kingdom of God / His house) is divided against itself it cannot stand, and will ultimately fall.



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

## How does divisiveness work?

### I Corinthians 12 : 18, 24 – 25

“...God has set the member... as He pleased...God composed the body...that there...be no schism...but...the members...the same care for one another.”

‘schism’ – a split or gap (schism), literally or figuratively; a rent, metaphorically a division, dissension

‘schizo’ – to split or sever (literally or figuratively); to divide by rending, to split into factions, be divided

### III John 9 – 10

“...Diotrephes...does not receive us...the brethren...”

‘epidechomai’ – to admin; to receive hospitality



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

How does divisiveness work?

I Corinthians 14 : 1 – 5, 12, 26

“...that the church may receive edification...let it be for the edification of the church that you seek...let all things be done for edification.”

“He who speak from himself seeks his own glory.” John 7 :18

“...to seek one’s own glory is not glory...” Proverbs 25 : 27

I Timothy 1 : 4

“...teach no other doctrine nor give heed to fables...genealogies, which cause disputes...”

‘zetesis’ – a dispute; a subject of questioning or debate, matter of controversy



# What Is the Opposite of Edification?

What does divisiveness look like?

Galatians 2 : 11 – 14

“...he was to be blamed...he withdrew and separated himself...they were not straightforward about the truth...”

‘hupostello’ – to withhold under (out of sight); to draw back

‘aphorizo’ – to set off by boundary; to mark off from others

I Corinthians 1 : 10

“...divisions...”

I Corinthians 3 : 3

“...divisions...”

I Corinthians 11 : 18 – 19

“...divisions...factions...”

Divisiveness looks like you building walls between the brethren.



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How does this happen?

II Peter 2 :1 – 2

“...who will secretly bring in destructive heresies...”

Jude 1 : 3 – 4

Men stopped fighting

Divisiveness crept in

If there is divisiveness in the church today, it is the our fault.