

# Epistle 364

by George Fox

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*George Fox's Epistle 364 emphasizes the importance of unity, humility, and living in the power of the gospel of peace among believers.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:14, Romans 1:16, Romans 12:10, Romans 12:19, 1 Corinthians 10:31, Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:16, Philippians 1:27, Philippians 2:3, Colossians 3:17

**Topics:** "Christian Unity", "Gospel Living"

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## Description

George Fox preaches about living in unity and love, encouraging believers to subject themselves to one another in the fear of the Lord, to dwell in the love of God, and to put down all divisions and prejudices. He emphasizes the importance of kindness, humility, and cherishing the truth and goodness in all interactions. Fox urges the congregation to be lights in the world, to maintain their saltiness by being a good influence, and to show forth the work of the Lord in honesty and justness. He concludes by exhorting them to walk in the glorious gospel of peace, where enmity cannot come, giving praise, glory, and thanks to the everlasting God.

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## Transcript

Dear friends,--My love to you all in the holy peaceable truth; and my desires are, that whatsoever ye do may be done in the name of Jesus [Col 3:17], to the glory of God [1 Cor 10:31] the Father. And all be subject one to another [1 Pet 5:5] in the fear of the Lord God, so that ye may all come to dwell in the love of God, which edifies the body of Christ [Eph 4:16], who is the heavenly man. And let all strifes, and divisions, and backbitings, or whisperings, or prejudices, cease and be buried; and so whatsoever is amiss, or hath been amiss, let it be put down by the truth and spirit of God, that it may be uppermost, which is a strong bond to unite your hearts, and minds, and souls together, and to the Lord.

And be kind and courteous one towards another, all studying to be quiet [1 Th 1:11], and to excel one another in virtue, and purity, and holiness, and righteousness, and godliness, in all your words, and lives, and conversations; so that you may all walk as become saints and christians, every one esteeming and preferring one another above yourselves [Phil 2:3/Rom 12:10] in the truth, in meekness, and lowliness of mind, and humility; for he that inhabits eternity, dwells with an humble heart [Isa 57:15].

And therefore, do not quench the least motion of God's good spirit [1 Th 5:19/Neh 9:20] in yourselves, nor in any other; but let truth and goodness be cherished in all; and let all harshness, and bitterness, and revilings be kept down by the truth, that it may have its passage through you all, and in it you may bear

one another's weakness and infirmities, and so fulfil the law of Christ [Gal 6:2/Rom 15:1]; keeping down revenge, hastiness or passion, as knowing vengeance is the Lord's, and he will repay it [Rom 12:19] on every one that does wrong, without respect of persons [Acts 10:34].

For, friends, you there should be as lights, or as a city that cannot be hid. Lights, I say, to give light in all people [Mat 5:14f]; and also to be as the salt of the earth, to be a good savour, and savoury to all people; for he or she, that is an ill savour, hath lost the salt's savour, and is good for nothing, and is trodden under the foot of men [Mat 5:13]. And therefore take heed of losing the salt's savour, either in word or conversation; for if you do, you will come under the foot of men, they will trample upon you; therefore be careful, fervent, circumspect, and faithful in the truth, and let your moderation, temperance, and sobriety appear to all men [Phil 4:5], showing forth the work of the Lord, and your honesty and justness in all your words and dealings between man and man; and that you may owe nothing to any man but love [Rom 13:8], that every one of you may be adorned with a meek and quiet spirit, which is with the Lord of great price [1 Pet 3:4].

And every one of you to be indued with wisdom from on high [Luke 24:49], which is pure and peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, and full of mercy and good works [Jas 3:17]; let the fruits of this appear among you all, and then you will all be gentle and easily entreated one of another. And keep in the unity of the spirit, which is the bond of the heavenly peace [Eph 4:3], (and then none quench it,) and all walking as becomes the glorious, joyful, peaceable gospel of Christ [Phil 1:27], which is the power of God [Rom 1:16], which was before the devil, and his power was, and is over him; in this gospel you all know life and immortality brought to light [2 Tim 1:10], that you all see your everlasting glorious fellowship, in the everlasting gospel of peace [Rev 14:6/Rom 10:15]; in this gospel, the power of God, that was before enmity was, and will remain when it is gone.

And therefore all you who know this glorious gospel of peace live and walk in it, keeping your glorious, heavenly, comfortable fellowship in this glorious gospel of peace, in which enmity cannot come, as before. And in this everlasting gospel, the everlasting God, (who is over all, from everlasting to everlasting,) will have the praise, glory, and thanks, who is worthy of all, for ever and evermore.

G. F.

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