

Let Other Churches Also Send to Antioch

by Ignatius of Antioch

Ignatius requests the churches to write to adjacent churches and send messengers or letters to glorify Antioch, emphasizing the importance of unity in Jesus Christ.

Scripture: Romans 12:5, Ephesians 4:3, Philippians 4:7, 1 Peter 3:8

Topics: "Church Unity", "Eternal Grace"

Description

Ignatius of Antioch urges the Church to continue in unity and under the protection of God, emphasizing the importance of sending messengers and letters to adjacent Churches to spread the message of Christ. He sends personal greetings to specific individuals, expressing his love and prayers for their well-being in God. Ignatius highlights the eternal grace and blessings that come from being united in Jesus Christ, encouraging the believers to remain steadfast in their faith.

Transcript

Inasmuch, therefore, as I have not been able to write to all Churches, because I must suddenly sail from Troas to Neapolis, as the will [of the emperor] enjoins, [I beg that] thou, as being acquainted with the purpose of God, wilt write to the adjacent Churches, that they also may act in like manner, such as are able to do so sending messenger, and the others transmitting letters through those persons who are sent by thee, that thou mayest be glorified by a work which shall be remembered for ever, as indeed thou art worthy to be.

I salute all by name, and in particular the wife of Epitropus, with all her house and children. I salute Attalus, my beloved. I salute him who shall be deemed worthy to go [from you] into Syria.

Grace shall be with him for ever, and with Polycarp that sends him. I pray for your happiness for ever in our God, Jesus Christ, by whom continue ye in the unity and under the protection of God. I salute Alce, my dearly beloved. Amen. Grace [be with you]. Fare ye well in the Lord.

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