

Becoming Mature (Ephesians 4:7-13)

Introduction

- What happened during a Roman triumph?
- What was Ephesians 4:1-6 all about?
- Does that mean that Christians are to be clones of each other?

i The Giver of the Gifts (v7-11)

- Who gives us spiritual gifts?
- Which verses tell us that?
- What does v7 tell us about who the gifts are given to?
- v7 also teaches that the Lord Jesus Christ has given gifts as he sees fit. What two extremes does this fact save us from?

(i)

(ii)

- What is Psalm 68, which Paul quotes in v8, all about?
- How is our Lord the fulfilment of that?
- In v9-10, where did our Lord descend to?
- And where did he ascend to?
- What does this mean about his ability to give us gifts?
- What do the four example gifts (or offices) in v11 have in common?
- How should we respond to Jesus as the giver of our gifts?

ii The Goal of the Gifts (v12-13)

- Why, according to v12, has God given word-ministry gifts to the church?
- What does this show about the importance of evangelists and pastor-teachers?
- How does God's word prepare us for service?
- What happens when God's people are equipped for service and then serve?
- How does that work?
- What does it mean if a Christian does not serve in the church?
- How does Paul's scope get larger in v13?
- What is the first goal of the building up of the church?
- What is the second goal of the building up of the church?
- What is the third goal of the building up of the church?
- When will this goal be reached?
- What should be happening in the meantime?
- How can you become a part of the church?