

## **Bread and Wine** – Brothersisterhood Argument

## Biblical:

"But you are not to be called rabbi; for only one is your master, but you all are brothers." Jesus of Nazareth, according to the Gospel of Matthew 23.8. (Let's say he meant sisters, too.) Consequently, the Apostle Paul calls the addressed in Rome 10 times 'brothers', those in Corinth 22 times (two letters); so in three letters already 32 times! (Let's suppose Paul meant the sisters as well. There are accepted Bible translations, which consequently translate now 'brothers and sisters'.)

Be that as it may, this expression so often used by Saint Paul, proves that equal brothersisterhood is a Christian concept. Heaven! Equal fraternity/sisterhood already 1750 years before the French Revolution! Despite this penetrant insistence of that Paul, the Christians did not understand this dimension of the message. In 1789, the Catholic Church was already so far from its sources that it did not recognize brothersisterhood and equality (even all three values!) as it's own ones. (Let's suppose again that the revolutionaries meant the sisters equally.)

## Catholic:

230 years later, the Pope discovers and proclaims in an outstanding way that the Christmas message includes brotherhood as the basis of the Christian vision of humanity: "God is a good father and we are all brothers. This truth is the basis of the Christian vision of humanity. We brothers and sisters are all different and we do not always agree ... But there is an indissoluble bond that binds us together ... May this Christmas help to rediscover the bonds of brotherhood. This is why my Christmas wishes are also wishes for brotherhood.» Pope Francis at Christmas 2018. (Let's suppose that sisterhood resonates here likewise.)

## Protestant / Reformed

In the same year 2018, the Reformed at the base are already there and solemnly declare: "Those who move are guided by love ... by 'Eintracht' ... as Luther translated Psalm 133.1 from Hebrew into German: "See how fine and lovely when siblings are together in a concord way. »

Why is this expression so important? Because it is good, fine and lovely. Harmony / concord is not necessarily unity. Unity can be enforced. Unification can be ordered. 'Eintracht' is not a 'unité de doctrine'. She is sibling. It is a gift ... What unites us is the interest in a brothersisterhood church. In other words, the hope for the Church, which is emerging in the existing Church and which can be reformed in the Reformed Church. What unites us is the same spirit. What moves us, the same promise: Where two or three people are together in the name of Jesus, becomes church. "(Reformed moved in 2018)