

# The Unity of the Spirit, or Failure of Brethrenism

AS A UNITED TESTIMONY.

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## CHAPTER I.

### Origin of Brethrenism.

IT is a remarkable fact that in the New Testament Scriptures no express rules are laid down for Church organization or government. This doubtless is one reason for the many ecclesiastical systems that exist at the present day amongst those who are really anxious to be guided by the Word of God, in their religious work and worship, and in fellowship with each other as members of the body of Christ.

The question naturally arises: Why is it that no specific plan is laid down for the guidance of Christians in such matters during this dispensation? We see that under the Mosaic economy the most minute details are given by God, as to the manner in which His ancient people were to worship and serve Him. With regard to the earthly tabernacle Moses was admonished by God: "See that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed thee in the mount" (Heb. viii. 5). And after the Israelites entered into the land of promise there was to be one certain place only, "which the Lord their God had chosen, to put His name there" in which they were to offer their burnt offerings and their sacrifices (Deut. xii). This place, by divine appointment, was first at Shiloh, and afterwards at Jerusalem.