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Did you know that in every Bible usage of the word for “saints,” it never refers to just one “saint” in particular? The word, meaning “ones set apart (for God),” always refers to a group of believers in the Lord and His Christ.

Sometimes, in a particular Bible publication, we will read New Testament writers’ names with “St.” before them. This title tends to make them seem special, more honorable and spiritual than other human beings.

The rest of the Bible would argue against that, however.

In always talking about saints in the plural, Scripture enforces the essential equality of believers with one another. It never singles out one believer as more important, amazing, or celebrated than another.

About the church, we read, “For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot says, ‘Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body,’ it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. And if the ear says, ‘Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body,’ it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?” in First Corinthians 12:14-17.

Honoring one saint above another makes as much sense as praising a beautiful house but not its builder, honoring aproductive machine instead of its inventor.

Believers must reserve their acclaim, compliments and credit for the Lord Jesus Christ. He alone has all power to give good gifts and talents to men, and to answer prayer. “For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house,” (Hebrews 3:3).

Don’t allow references to one individual as a “saint” distract you from giving the saint-maker, Jesus, His due praise.