

NAME

`ldap_first_message`, `ldap_next_message`, `ldap_count_messages` - Stepping through messages in a result chain

LIBRARY

OpenLDAP LDAP (libldap, -lldap)

SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ldap.h>
```

```
int ldap_count_messages( LDAP *ld, LDAPMessage *result )
```

```
LDAPMessage *ldap_first_message( LDAP *ld, LDAPMessage *result )
```

```
LDAPMessage *ldap_next_message( LDAP *ld, LDAPMessage *message )
```

DESCRIPTION

These routines are used to step through the messages in a result chain received from **ldap_result(3)**. For search operations, the result chain can contain referral, entry and result messages. The **ldap_msgtype(3)** function can be used to distinguish between the different message types.

The **ldap_first_message()** routine is used to retrieve the first message in a result chain. It takes the *result* as returned by a call to **ldap_result(3)**, **ldap_search_s(3)** or **ldap_search_st(3)** and returns a pointer to the first message in the result chain.

This pointer should be supplied on a subsequent call to **ldap_next_message()** to get the next message, the result of which should be supplied to the next call to **ldap_next_message()**, etc.

ldap_next_message() will return NULL when there are no more messages.

These functions are useful when using routines like **ldap_parse_result(3)** that only operate on the first result in the chain.

A count of the number of messages in the result chain can be obtained by calling **ldap_count_messages()**. It can also be used to count the number of remaining messages in a chain if called with a message, entry or reference returned by **ldap_first_message()**, **ldap_next_message()**, **ldap_first_entry(3)**, **ldap_next_entry(3)**, **ldap_first_reference(3)**, **ldap_next_reference(3)**.

ERRORS

If an error occurs in **ldap_first_message()** or **ldap_next_message()**, NULL is returned. If an error occurs in **ldap_count_messages()**, -1 is returned.

SEE ALSO

ldap(3), **ldap_search(3)**, **ldap_result(3)**, **ldap_parse_result(3)**, **ldap_first_entry(3)**,
ldap_first_reference(3)

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<<http://www.openldap.org/>>. **OpenLDAP Software** is derived from the University of Michigan LDAP 3.3 Release.