

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.