



Sunday Nov 24, 2013
Pictures of The Church (Part-4) : The Body of Christ
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Review:

The Lord Jesus is building HIS Church.

Pictures of the Church, used in Scripture :

- The Body
- The Household of God (Family of God)
- The Pillar of Truth
- The Temple of God
- A House of Prayer
- Zion - The Assembly of God's People
- The Bride
- The Vine and the branches (John 15)
- The Lampstand (Revelation 1:20)
- The Army of God (Matthew 16:16-19)

Previously we studied about
The Church as The Bride of Christ.
The Church as A House of Prayer.
Today, The Church as The Body of Christ

Pictures of The Church : The Body of Christ

Colossians 1:18

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

The Church is His Body - the Body of Christ.

1, As His Body, our life flows from Him

Both individually and collectively we need to pursue intimacy with Him.

We have been emphasizing that :

A, Church is primarily who we are in relation to Him.

Without our relation to Him, there is no Church. A body without the head can no longer live and function.



B, Out of our relation to Him, we then relate to one another and to the world.

Acts 17:28 for in Him we live and move and have our being,

2, As His Body, we represent Him

Ephesians 1:22,23

22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,
23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

A, The Father made Christ as head over all things for the Church

The Body carries the same authority as the Head (Matthew 28:18).

B, The Church is the fullness (completeness) of Christ

The Church is the complete representation of Christ.

Both individually and collectively - Christ is to be seen and accurately portrayed by the Church to the world.

We re-present Him.

"as He"

about 7 times, John uses this phrase in his first epistle

- walk in light, as He is Light (1:7)
- walk, as He walked (2:6)
- see Him, as He is (3:1)
- purify ourselves, as He is pure (3:3)
- practice righteousness, as He is righteous (3:7)
- love, as He loved and commanded us to love (3:23)
- as He is, so are we in this world (4:17)

Simply put, Christ is our Standard, our model, our pattern.

To represent Him accurately, we must follow Him closely.

C, Christ fills every member with Himself

Our ability to re-present Him comes from the fact that He fills each of us with Himself.

Colossians 2:9,10

9 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;
10 and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

We are made complete in Him.



This is positional truth. Positional truth means that this is a reality in the spiritual realm - but we need to let it translate into becoming a reality in daily life through our walk with God.

That is why Paul desired for the Galatians for "Christ to be formed" in them (Galatians 4:19).

Christ fill me with Himself. However, in daily life, I need to let Him "fill me" - reign in me, moment by moment in every area of life. He empowers me to do this.

3, As His Body, we are His hands and feet - we do His will

The Church is the instrument to execute Christ's purposes.

The Body executes what the head commands.

We are to listen to Him and then move - execute - what He speaks.

We must go where He directs us to go.

We must do what He directs us to do.

Matthew 10:40 "He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.

Jesus sees Himself extended through us.

John 20:21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

Jesus has passed on His mission to us and sent us into the world.

We must penetrate all spheres of society, take our place everywhere, to execute what Jesus desires to be done, there.

4, As His Body, we are in relationship with one another

we are connected to each other, we supply to (serve) each other and we need each other.

1 Corinthians 12:12-27

A, The Body has many members (12:12,14)

We are different in terms of position and function in the Body. We are not all same.



B, Each one of us is a member of the Body (12:27)

None of us in 'not needed'.

C, We are not independent. We need each other (12:15,16)

D, There are diverse functions in the Body (12:17)

Lets learn to appreciate and celebrate each one's gifting and function.

E, God has placed each one where He saw it best for us and as He was pleased (12:18)

Lets recognize our place and enjoy whatever place and function Christ has given us.

Lets not be envious of somebody else's gift and function.

F, It takes many of us - all of us - to make up the whole (12:19,20)

Understand that the Body is not complete without all of us.

G, We can never claim independence (12:21)

Recognize that others are around you to give to you and you to them.

H, God gives greater honor to what seems to have less honor (12:22-24)

what seems weaker, is actually necessary

what seems hidden, actually receives greater honor

I, God does not want any division/strife in His Body, but that we demonstrate mutual love and care for one another (12:25-26)

Conclusion:

1, As His Body, our life flows from Him

2, As His Body, we represent Him

3, As His Body, we are His hands and feet - we do His will

4, As His Body, we are in relationship with one another



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>