

CHRIST THE HEAD AND BELIEVERS HIS BODY
pt 3

I. The Shepherd and The Sheep Relationship

II. The Vine and The Branches Relationship

III. Christ the High Priest and Believers Today A Kingdom of Priests

IV. Christ the Head and Believers His Body

A. Three aspects About the Church as the Body of Christ:

- 1) The church is a self developing body! (Eph 4:11-16)
- 2) The members of the body are assigned & gifted to specific service within the body! (1 Corinthians 12)
- 3) Although the church has many members, it is _____ with Christ as its _____!
(Ephesians)

a. This body concept is _____ in Ephesians 1:22-23

* Someone has said that the _____ of the Church is in heaven, while His _____ & _____ are on earth!

* What does that mean?

* What is available to the believer "in Christ"? (1:3)

1) According to Ephesians 1:23, the Church is the _____ on earth!

2) The Church is the fullness of Him by means of His _____ & _____ and this is expressed via believers who _____ to _____ & His _____ wherever they are!

b. How do we get "in Christ"? (Eph. 2)

1) We were made _____ or _____ because we were _____ in trespasses & sins! (2:1)

2) What is true of Christ became ours the moment we _____ with Christ... "God made us alive _____ with Christ, raised us up _____, & made us sit _____ in heavenly places " _____"

3) That He might show the exceeding riches of His _____ toward us because we are _____!

4) The Body of Christ is made up of _____ & _____ who come to Christ in _____!

5) Christ _____ in Himself one new man (the _____) from the two-- thus making _____!

* How did He do it?

* Who & what does "in whom" refer to in vs 21-22?

6) "In Christ" we're are growing & being fitted together into a _____ for the Lord, a place where the _____ today now dwells & has His home!

c. The Church --A Sacred _____ Now Revealed (Eph 3)

1) The present _____ of the grace of God (the Church) was _____ by the OT prophets as they looked down the corridors of time!

* What is a "mystery" in scripture?

* What was this "mystery"? (3:6)

"fellow heirs"

"of the same body"

"partakers of His promise"

* What promise?

* How is all this made available to us today?

d. The Implementation of our Position to Practice in the Body (Eph. 4)

1) Paul seeks to have us to walk or strive together in the _____ which the HS established when He saved us by grace! (4:1-6)

* What are we obligated to do by means of the HS enabling? (4:3)

2) Paul then seeks to have each believer use their _____ within the body for its equipping, edification, & specific ministry or service! (4:7-16)

John 17-- The true _____ for HIS CHURCH in light of the cross!

* What does our Lord pray for?