

Christ in Session- One New Man-The Body in Action

If you don't know where you're going you'll never get there.

If you don't know WHO you are you'll never reach maturity/perfection.

Many believers wandering aimlessly not knowing WHO they are; WHAT they're becoming or WHERE they're going or WHY. Their confession is, "I'm just a poor ole sinner saved by grace. Ya'all pray I'll be found faithful til the end."

We are saved *from* what and *for* what and *why*.

Confused Corinthians: Paul acknowledged their spiritual growth, their salvation and their excelling in charismata, but they had a problem with divisions, doctrinal problems and disorder in worship (1 Cor. 1:2-8).

Denominations, institutionalized and independent are myopic. They are either

<i>Salvation centered:</i>	Get to heaven when I die, or
<i>Separation centered:</i>	Holiness, sanctification
<i>Doctrine centered:</i>	Correct doctrine
<i>Experience centered.</i>	Emotional centered
<i>Personality centered.</i>	The Corinthian problem. i.e. I'm in faith camp.
<i>Spiritual gift centered.</i>	Mostly tongues and/or prophecy..
<i>Prophecy centered.</i>	or
<i>Paul:</i>	Christ centered

I: What is the goal of Christ's body? The earthly phase.

Just get to heaven, streets gold, eternal sunshine, fish in sea of life with no bugs?

A: *Ta teleion*: maturity, perfect, grown beyond childhood stage, Perfect KJV

B: Goal is becoming a clear manifestation of Christ in you.

"As Father sent me so send I you." "As He is so are you in this world."

"Christ in you the hope of glory."

C: 1 Cor 12-13 Church *Body like a body. Head says to feet I don't need you.*

Whole spirit, soul and body preserved blameless until His coming.

II: Gifts in the New Covenant scriptures are ministries given to each member. Dorea:

Doma: Charisma. 3 different words for GIFT.

1: *Dorea: Freely given, for naught, gratis, free gift*

Acts 2:38 "gift" of the Holy Spirit

Eph 4:7 the "gift" of Jesus Christ

2 Cor. 9:15 His unspeakable "gift" outright free gift to ALL

Acts 8:20 "gift" of God purchased with money?

Acts 11:17 Gentiles received free "gift" of Spirit

2: *Doma, domata "Benefactions of sovereign. An expression of love.*

Eph 4:8 Gave "gifts" to men after ascension

Mt 7:11 gave good "gifts" to your children

Luke 11:13 Same verse as Mt. 7:11

Phil 4:17 Not because I desire a “gift”

Domata were given gratis

Eph 4:8 refers to Christy’s gifts to the church-body

3: *Charisma/ charismata always refer to spiritual manifestations.*

1 Cor. 12:1 “Now concerning “spirituals” brethren etc.

Grace , from Grk *charisma*, “gifts” as He wills and chooses. His acts of kindness or favor.

QUESTION: How do these gifts function in and through His body?

III: Christ in Session: how His Body functions.

Jn 14:8 Philip asked: “*Show us the Father: He is Spirit, glorious, almighty, unapproachable, Shekinah glory, pillar of fire and glory: show us!*”

1) *Christ came to manifest God. John 1:18*

Jn 17:4 I finished the work you gave me to do. This before the cross.

17:6 I manifested your Name and all the name means to men.

17:14-18 I gave them Thy word. “I AM THE WORD.

17:4,22 I have glorified You on earth. .Now glorify them

As you have sent me so send I them. Do in them what you have done in Me, the Word made flesh.

2) *Christ manifested God two ways: Spoken word and demonstrated works.*

A: What He said and did manifested God. In the Spirit He heard and then said what he heard and then He did what He heard the Word say. First he heard the Word and then he did the Works.

B: Invisible God made visible through Jesus’ physical body. All God is Jesus was. He came into world to make Yahweh God known to man.

3) *Christ’s Body: He expresses/manifests Himself in and through His Body.*

How can, how does the world see Christ? Should the world believe in a religious philosophy without seeing living evidence?

a) Paul used human body as example of function. (1 Cor. 12-26).

b) Distinction between Bride and Body/ both the church.

Body is on the earth made up of flesh and blood people. Scene of action is on the earth.

The Body relates to Kingdom truths.

NOTE: Body is not seen in heaven...Bride not seen on earth.

c) Christ the Head is connected to His Body/Church.

Purpose of Body? Continue His work doing Father’s will, manifesting His Glory.

d) Christ destroyed works of devil (1 Jn. 3:8) and charged His Body to enforce His victory.

Jn. 14:23 We WILL come and make our home with Him. God in Christ in you.

4) Christ's Bride is heavenly; An intimate one-on-one relationship. i.e. the Marriage supper of the Lamb.

IV: How do people see God in Christ? His Words and His works thru character

- a) Character is the *fruit* of Spirit. Gal. 5:22 God is Love, joy, peace etc.
- b) Ministry/power is *gifts* of Spirit. 1 Cor 12:7-10. *Charismata* manifest Christ.
- c) Authority. Christ functioning in His Body. Eph. 4:11; 2 Cor 12:29. Christ's Being is His character (spirit) and Christ's Doing His Ministry gifts and He moves through His Offices.

V: How does it work practically?

Except seed fall into ground and die it remains alone, *but if it dies it brings forth much fruit exactly like the seed (Jn. 12:24).*

ILL: Corn seed.

Each seed produces 2 or more ears with hundreds of kernels each capable of multiplying itself again and again.

- a) Jn. 16:14-15 The Spirit will glorify Me, of Mine. All Father has is Mine, shall take what is Mine and show it to you. Me, Mine, Mine, Mine, Yours. WOW!!!
- b) Christ's Spirit is not a different kind (*heteros*), but (*allos*) same kind.

Truth: The Holy Spirit was not given until after Jesus was glorified. Spirit is Jesus, "I come to you." "A little while and you will not see me (Ascension).
"A little while and you will see Me (Descention)

c) "Sir, we would see Jesus." Jn 12:21. His answer in verse 23.

The whole Christ manifested through a whole body.

Pentecost: The Spirit took all that was Jesus and brought the same to us. When the Holy Spirit descended He brought to us the Whole Christ and the Whole Christ resides in you.

VI: No person gift is for personal edification in whole or in part. Never!

Whole or part Christ? A gift from or The Giver?

- a) You shall be like a tree planted by rivers of living waters, bringing fruit in due season. Psalm 2. The tree stands still. Absorbs nutrients and produces fruit.

Conclusion: Goal, purpose and function of the Church/Body is to manifest the Living Christ. Represent Him. As Father sent Him so He sends you/me/us.

Made us able (*dunamis*) ministers of the New Covenant.

Pastor Jack Hayford once said: "The divine purpose of the church is to go out and kick hell out of the world."

Go to work!