



Church – The Body of Christ The Body

The concept 'Church' came in being after the death and resurrection of Christ. In the book of Acts of the Apostles the word 'Church' is used for the believers collectively. Today sadly people define the Church to the structure where people meet to pray, worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist. The people in charge as leaders have only taken an administration role and are given more importance than the congregation. It is like the clothes given more importance than the body. The clothes are to serve the body by protecting it, not the other way around. But sadly we all know that it is true, people do not mind wearing clothes which are uncomfortable or which do not fit properly nor protect the body, just to feel they look good on them.

I would define the 'CHURCH' as CHrist to the left, CHrist to the right and yoU aRe in between. Which means that it is only 'through CHrist' 'yoU the followeRs of Christ', 'with CHrist' reach out to God the Father that is 'CHURCH'. For Jesus says in the Gospels that He is the way and only those that follow Him will be lead to the Father. In short the Church is a gathering of believers and followers of Christ who through Christ reach out to God the Father.

In the Holy Bible the church has been compared at times as a bride of Christ and sometimes as a body of Christ. In either place Christ is the head of the church.

Ephesians 5:25-27

²³*For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.*

²⁵*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.*

²⁹*After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church ³⁰for we are members of his body.*

In the book of Revelation the bride is joined with the bridegroom that is Christ. Like in marriage the two become one, so also the church will become one with Christ.

Revelation 19:7

⁷*Let us rejoice and be glad
and give him glory!*

*For the wedding of the Lamb has come,
and his bride has made herself ready.*

⁸*Fine linen, bright and clean,
was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for righteous of God.)*

⁹*Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!"
" And he added, "These are the true words of God."*

Ephesians 5

²⁹*After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church ³⁰for we are members of his body. ³¹"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." ³²This is a profound mysterybut I am talking about Christ and the church.*

Church as the body of Christ

1 Corinthians 10

¹⁵*I speak to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. ¹⁶Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.*



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Ephesians 1

²²And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Colossians 2

⁹For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

Now we who are a part of the church become a part of the body of Christ.

Romans 12

⁴Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Colossians 1

¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

It is very sad that we have formed many churches, many sections of Christianity. It is like dividing the body of Christ, the only reason to this is the lack of understanding in the Word of God and the pride and stubbornness of the leaders who have been called to unite the people to Christ, instead divide them.

Colossians 3:15

¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

1 Corinthians 12

¹²The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. ¹³For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

¹⁴Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" ²²On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, ²⁴while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, ²⁵so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. ²⁶If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

Therefore I call myself a Christian, a follower of Christ and am part of any body that is a part of the body of Christ irrespective of what they call themselves.

If I go to share the Word of God to any person most of them who do not know me, will first ask if I am a Catholic or a Protestant etc.. The Catholic feels the Protestants are going wrong and vice versa. As the Lord started teaching me, I was amused to find out so many places both are so lost. One thing we should understand that we all do not know the Bible very well and what is revealed to us is only part. As time goes on more and more parts will be revealed to us.



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1 Corinthians 13

⁹For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.

¹¹When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. ¹²Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

Let us pray for the gift of discernment, if the Spirit is one, the Lord is one then how can there be divisions? Ask for the wisdom and knowledge of God not human wisdom and knowledge when it especially concerns faith.

Ephesians 4

³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit just as you were called to one hope when you were called ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

²⁵Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

The main problem in Christians is Spiritual growth. It is like the birth of a child and the stages of growth in the child. Most of the Christians belong to the stage of a child which has been delivered out of the mother's womb but is still connected to the mother through the umbilical cord and remains connected for years together. This cord which was the source of supply of nourishment becomes the source of infection. They have accepted Christ but do not allow being lead by the Holy Spirit and therefore have no spiritual growth.

Grow like a baby, disconnect from your mother, and do not get attached all your life to the people who have shown you Christ. Start with milk and then grow on to receive solid food (Word of God). If you do not disconnect from people and surrender to God then how will the Spirit of God lead you?

Only when we grow in Spirit we will realize what part of the body of Christ we are, for we are made to perform different functions like the different parts of the body. Although we may possess many Spiritual gifts but one would be in greater quantity than the others which would help identify you as what part you are and your function in the church.

Romans 12

⁴Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have

different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

Paul in his letters to the Corinthians and Ephesians and the Old Testament, the book of Exodus classifies the body of the church into mainly seven parts. Christ the head, then apostles, prophets, teachers, healers, evangelist (preachers) and lastly administers or pastors.

1 Corinthians 12

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. ⁶There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But eagerly desire the greater gifts.



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Ephesians 4

¹¹*It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

When we understand what part of the body we are, we are able to function much better and do not confuse others and ourselves by behaving like another part.

When a child is born the body gets form slowly starting first with the heart then slowly the child gets form fully head, torso, hands, legs etc... This amazing formation comes for the building block of the child the DNA. The DNA holds a lot of information that gets passed from generation to generation. The body to get formed get the blue print from the DNA's eight units, two units form the head and the neck and the remaining six the body; the chest, the shoulders, the hands, the stomach, the crouch area and the legs (*this is in man in other creatures the equivalent of the same*). Even in creatures like a snake or a spider or fish or any other multi-cell (*complex*) creature is formed from these units. If one part of the body is missing (*suppressed like the legs in a snake*) they are secrete or take another forms. This scientific information I am sharing with you for it has to do with the image of God and the Church, it gives us the template of the functioning of the Church. I will explain the function of the church in comparison to the human body as the Lord made me understand.

The seven parts of the Church are attributed as parts of the body of Christ and can be compared to the parts of the human body.

- 1) Christ - The Head
- 2) Apostle - The Chest
- 3) Prophet - The Crotch
- 4) Teacher - The Shoulder
- 5) Administrator (Pastor) - The Stomach
- 6) Evangelist - The Hands
- 7) Healers - The Legs

The Lord confirmed this in the Old Testament in the book of Exodus chapter 28 & 29.

Christ is the eternal High Priest, when the Lord asked Moses to make the clothes of the High Priest (Aaron); the Lord specified the clothes and how they were to be made.

The garments of the High Priest were the epoch, the breastplate, the sash, the under garments and the tunic.

The turban - Christ the Head

The epoch was a shoulder piece - The Teacher

The breastplate - The Apostle

The sash - The Administrator (Pastor)

The under garments - The Prophet

The tunic - A short Lenin coat, which is up to the knee long and represents righteousness covering the body.

Exodus 28

⁴*These are the garments they are to make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a woven tunic, a turban and a sash. They are to make these sacred garments for your brother Aaron and his sons, so they may serve me as priests.*

What about the evangelist and healers?

Now when the High Priest was consecrated, the sacrificial blood was applied to the earlobes first which is a part of the head then to the thumb which is part of the hand and lastly to the toes which was part of the leg.



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Exodus 29

¹⁹ "Take the other ram, and Aaron and his sons shall lay their hands on its head. ²⁰ Slaughter it, take some of its blood and put it on the lobes of the right ears of Aaron and his sons, on the thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes of their right feet. Then sprinkle blood against the altar on all sides. ²¹ And take some of the blood on the altar and some of the anointing oil and sprinkle it on Aaron and his garments and on his sons and their garments. Then he and his sons and their garments will be consecrated.

Jesus Christ was the first anointed one the anointing of the Holy Spirit was on Him it was only after Him the true Church function was revealed. The functioning of the different parts of the body can be so only after the body (Head) has come into being. Since the eternal High Priest (Christ) did not come yet, therefore all of them before Jesus were called Men of God.

Each of the part of the dress, the works, the colors and material used meant something. Among the common things; the color blue stood for holiness, the color purple stood for royalty, the color scarlet stood for sin, linen yarn or cloth meant righteousness and gold meant precious.

Details of each part of the body and how it is related to the part of the church and to the dress of the High priest are given as you click on the menu.

Now for the things which are common to all the parts of the body.

THINGS COMMON TO THE BODY

❖ THE BLOOD:

The blood is like the Word of God. The Bible says life is in the blood.

Leviticus 17:11

¹¹ *For the life of a creature is in the blood*

The Word of God is that which gives life to us like the blood.

John 6:63

⁶³ *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit [Or Spirit] and they are life.*

In the Old Testament man was commanded not to drink or consume the blood even of an animal. He was told to spill it to the earth but not consume it, for man was not redeemed from sin. The blood of the sacrifice was used to concentrate the altar and the Mercy Seat, through which the Lord spoke to them.

In the New Testament Jesus the Sacrificial Lamb of God, took wine blessed it and made it His blood and asked us to drink it, since now our body is become the temple of God. God dwells in us and the altar is within us. When we drink the blood of Jesus we concentrate ourselves and the altar that is within us.

❖ THE MUSCLES:

The muscles of the body represent faith. The muscles are like very small empty tubes or valves, when the blood flow in them they become hard and we get strength. So when the Word or God flows in faith the Power is released. If there is no faith there is no Power, no muscles no strength.

The blood flows to every part of the body and the heart controls every part of the body through the nervous system.



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❖ THE NERVOUS SYSTEM:

The head through the nervous system gives signals that help in controlling the functions of the different parts of the body. If the nervous system is to be cut off from any part of the body, that part gets paralyzed. The signals are like very small electrical pulses that control or direct the part of the body to do its functions. The same is with the Commandments, the instructions that God gave us to direct our lives, if we follow them we do not fall. If we do not we will become like a part of the body that malfunctions or becomes paralyzed.

The blood flows to all the parts of the body and the head controls them. And if the blood stops flowing to any part of the body and if the nervous system is cut off from it, that part dies. In the same way if we receive Jesus (the Word of God) and keep His Commandments we are alive, disconnect and we are spiritually dead.

❖ THE BONES AND BONE MARROW:

The bones, represent the soul the thoughts, the will, the human intents etc. The shape of the physical body is formed on basis of the bone structure. So also is our being is formed on basis of our thoughts, knowledge, intentions, our will which is our soul. Within the bone is the bone marrow which represents the human spirit, which is deep within our soul.

Hebrews 4:12 (KJV)

¹²For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV)

¹²For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

The thoughts, the will, the intents of a person are what make a person rigid. If guided by faith (muscles) they perform great work. It is the Word of God that disconnects our soul from our spirit.

The bone marrow baffles scientist even today; a lot of research is being done on it. In the bone marrow are cells that can generate different parts of the body, these cells are called stem cells. The Word of God says the seen comes from the unseen.

Hebrews 11

³Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Salvation is already given to us in spirit, all that is lacking has already been provided, and the same is in the bone marrow. The bone marrow (the stem cells) has the property to generate any part the body lacks, but we unfortunately do not know how to use it. The house lizard regenerates its tail using stem cells; the salamander lizard used this same property to generate even a limb if it is cut off.

Hebrew 11:3 says the two worlds were made by the Word of God. It is the Word of God that connects the two worlds. When we use the Word (promise) of God we bring into existence our Salvation and all that is lacking comes into fullness, we start using the stem cells.

❖ THE SKIN:

The skin which covers the whole body represents the works of man. Like the skin has many layers so also does works. They are the works towards God, towards your own self, towards your family and towards society. What is noticed by all is the works towards society; the others are hidden, same with the skin only the outer layers are seen.

❖ HAIR AND SWEAT PORES:

The skin has hair and sweat pores on them, which represent the grace and mercy of God. The grace like hair has its roots in the inner skin. The grace flows primarily according to your relation with God, yourself and then your family and society. The hair grows all over the body accordingly to where ever it is needed. The same is with grace, God provides us with His grace when ever and where ever we need it. It is the hair that protects us from the atmosphere, when it is cold; it gives warmth to the body. Cold is compares to the turning away of God's face from us. When God's face is turned away from us it's only His grace that brings us back to Him.

When it is hot the sweat pores excretes sweat that cools the body, the same is with mercy. Heat is compared to God's wrath. When every the wrath of God is on us, it is only His mercy that saves us.

The classification of the different parts of the Church and its functioning is according to the Word. Every function is compared with the Old Testament, the New Testament and with what Jesus did (since He is the corner stone). Please understand this is a template and may have variations and exceptions in each one's calling. This, the Lord will confirm to you directly. But please reconfirm so that you are not mislead and are fully used for God's glory.

1 Timothy 1

¹⁸*Timothy, my son, I give you this instruction in keeping with the prophecies once made about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, ¹⁹holding on to faith and a good conscience.*

You may have questions and may be confused in some areas, I would request you to go through the whole and then read the conclusion, which may settle your mind. Else you can always send your questions to me, so that I may answer them with the help of the Holy Spirit.