

INTRODUCTION

- * FOCUSING ON THE CHRIST ... *The Shadow of Christ, The Life of Christ, The Return of Christ, The Reign of Christ* ... *The Reflection of Christ*
- * **What we say, and how we live, is a reflection of Who, or what, is residing and reigning in our heart!**
- * We saw this as we examined the Individual Reflection as seen in:
Our Speech (Lk 6:43-46); Finances (Matt 6:19-24) & Relationships (Eph 5:32–6:9)
- * A few weeks ago we began considering the collective reflection of the church by examining the illustrations that Scripture uses of the relationship of the church to Christ – first, considering the church as the Building, then as the Bride.
- * Last week, we began our consideration of the church as the Body of Christ; today, Lord willing, we would like to continue considering that illustration.

INSTRUCTION ... Let us consider the “Body of Christ”

I. THE ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

A. The Building (cf. I Corinthians 3: 9-17; Ephesians 2: 19-22; I Peter 2: 4-5)

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| 1. THE FOUNDATION OF THE BUILDING – The Word | a. Scripture (cf. Ephesians 2: 20) | b. Jesus Christ (cf. I Corinthians 3: 11) |
| 2. THE NATURE OF THE BUILDING | a. We Are Being Fitted Together | b. We Are Being Built Together |
| 3. THE PURPOSE OF THE BUILDING | a. To Be A Holy Temple – Our Character (Eph 2:21-22; I Pet 1:15-16) | b. To Offer Up Spiritual Sacrifices – Our Activity (cf. I Pet 2: 4-5; John 4:24; Heb 13:15-16) |

B. The Bride (cf. John 3:29)

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| 1. THE NATURE OF THE BRIDE (cf. Eph 5: 22-33) | a. Her Humbleness (v. 22-24) | b. Her Holiness (v. 26-27; Hosea 2: 16-23) | c. Her Oneness (v. 31) |
| 2. THE FUTURE OF THE BRIDE | a. Dwelling Place (cf. Jn 14: 2-7) | b. Anticipated Return (cf. Jn 14: 3; Mt 25: 1-13; Acts 1: 11; I Th 4: 13-18; I Cor 15: 51-52) | c. Marriage Supper (cf. Rev 19: 5-9) |

C. The Body

1. RECOGNITION OF OUR HEAD (cf. Ephesians 1: 22-23)
2. RECOGNITION OF OUR CHARGE (cf. Ephesians 4: 1-7; Phil 1:27; Col 1:9-10; 1 Thess 2:10-12)
3. RECOGNITION OF OUR G_____ (cf. Ephesians 4: 11-16)
 - a. The S_____ment of the Goal (Ephesians 4: 13; I Corinthians 12:12; Romans 12:5)
 - b. The A_____ment of the Goal
 - 1) P_____ATION
 - 2) M_____ATION

II. THE INTERACTIONS OF THE CHURCH

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT IS **YOUR GOAL** FOR THIS ASSEMBLY?
- * ARE YOU INTRICATELY INVOLVED AND COMMITTED TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS ASSEMBLY BEING PERFECTED IN CHRIST?
- * YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE LOCAL ASSEMBLY THAT YOU ATTEND IS A REFLECTION OF YOUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST.
- * IS THERE A NEED FOR YOU TO “CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK” REGARDING YOUR, AND YOUR FAMILY’S, COMMITMENT TO THE LOCAL ASSEMBLY?