

Jesus – The Head of the Church

June 13th & 14th, 2015

Ephesians 1:22-23

Jesus is the Head of the church.

Head: "...the authority or direction of God in relation to Christ..."¹

Head: "The uppermost part of the human body...this part of the human body contains the organs of hearing, seeing, tasting and smelling; it contains also the brain, which is supposed to be the seat of the intellectual powers, and of sensation. Hence the head is the chief or most important part..."²

❖ Jesus is preeminent – superior to and surpassing all others in excellence!

📖 Colossians 1:15-20

❖ Note the amazing mutual submission of the Godhead!

1 Corinthians 15:28 "When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things in subjection under Him, that God may be all in all."

❖ Almighty God gave Jesus, who is above all rule, authority, power, dominion and all things in this world and beyond (*Ephesians 1:21*), to the church as its head and God has revealed that all true born-again Christians are now His body, bringing the fullness of Christ to the world!

Colossians 2:9 "For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,"

2 Corinthians 4:10 "always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies."

Jesus is the Head of the church, which is His body.

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it." 1 Corinthians 12:27

"[This] means more than saying that the Church is the company of the disciples of Christ, the people of God; it expresses the essential union of His people with Him ... and it speaks of the whole as functioning in obedience to Him, carrying out His work in the world."³

"... 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?'" Acts 9:4

📖 Romans 8:31-39

"... I will build My church,..." Matthew 16:18

"... 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore...'" Matthew 28:18-19

"But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere." 2 Corinthians 2:14

If Jesus is truly the Head of the church, then why do we struggle with fears and doubts concerning God's sufficiency in our lives?

❖ First of all, we are in a spiritual battle!

📖 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

“... every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God. ...”

f Satan constantly challenges our trust and confidence in God. He works to deter our thinking away from all that God has already given us!

📖 2 Chronicles 32 ⇒ An example of the character of our enemy

📖 Luke 4 ⇒ An example of Satan's tactics.

“It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing. Murder is no better than cards if cards can do the trick. Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one – the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts.”⁴

❖ Secondly, we are already conquerors in this spiritual war!

📖 Romans 8:31-39 “*What shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?...*”

The Sovereign God, creator and sustainer of the universe,
is the Head of the church and we are His!!

Endnotes:

¹ Vine, W.E. *Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old & New Testament Words*. Nashville: T. Nelson Publishers, 1997.

² Webster, Noah. *American Dictionary of the English Language (1828 Facsimile Edition)*. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1989.

³ Foulkes, Francis. *The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians, an introduction and commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1963. (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries)

⁴ Lewis, C. S. *The Screwtape Letters*. New York: Macmillan, 1943. Print.

