

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Church as the Body of Christ—Ephesians (Part 1)

As Romans is likely the greatest dissertation on the Gospel of Christ the book of Ephesians could be considered the most complete discussion and in depth study of the church of the Lord ever penned. The book seems more to be a presentation of the church in all its glory than merely a personal letter written to one certain local congregation. At least in the book you do not find the personal references to himself, and to them as it is true with Paul's other letters to churches. Since "In Ephesus" is not in some of the ancient manuscripts many scholars conclude Paul did not originally write it to that local church; maybe so or maybe not. I have learned some great truths about the Lord's church that I did not learn from other portions of the New Testament.

How can one really study Ephesians and not behold the splendor of the church Jesus built? And, how could he conclude the church is of little importance to God or to man? When one thinks thus, he has not understood Ephesians and the messages it contains. We have always contended that the world should not separate Christ from His church and to study Ephesians will prove our contention to be true. This grand book tied Jesus and His church, His body, intimately and inseparably together as no other book. It shows at least three vital relationships of Christ with the church:

- A. Christ is the head of the church, His body (1:22; 5:23).
- B. Christ gave Himself for the church, His body (5:25).
- C. Christ promises to nourish and cherish the Church, His body (5:29).

It is an intriguing and enlightening study to discover that in the chapters of this short book Paul uses "in Christ" or its equivalent more than 30 times. To be "*in Christ*" or, "*in His body*" or "*in Him*" must have been important to the Apostle Paul, at least he talks about it a great deal in just this one book as well as elsewhere in his writings.

What does Paul say about the church as the body of Christ in the book?

(1) The Church Is the Body of Christ.

Notice in 1:22-23 that Paul put all things under the feet of Christ and made Christ to be head over all things unto the church "*which is His body.*" then he repeats this truth in 5:30. Paul states the same in Colossians 1:18. And, in 1 Corinthians 12 and Romans 12 the apostle under the figure of a body studies the church showing we are all members of that same one body of Christ and members one of another having our differing functions.

(2) Reconciliation Is Found In That Body of Christ.

As chapter one sets forth the fact that the church is the body, so then the second chapter sets forth the truth that for Gentile or Jew reconciliation unto God is found in that same body of Christ. Christ broke down the middle wall of partition between the twain and making of the two one new man reconciled that new man unto God in the same body. There

is not one body for the Jew and another body for the Gentile. They are all fellow members and fellow partakers and are built together in that body.

—Hulen L. Jackson
(Part 2 next week)

Placed Membership

Cynthia Chappell placed her membership with us here at Eisenhower last Sunday. She has expressed a desire to be a part of the Lord's people that meets here and work under the guidance and leadership of our elders. Let's give Cynthia a very warm welcome.

Prayer Request

Kadyn McAfee (great-grandson of Ora McAfee) was taken to the ER at MCH Monday, August 28th. His jaw was swollen due to an infection in a lymph node. Kadyn is on antibiotics. He got to go home Wednesday, August 30th.

Eva Carrasco fell in her bathroom last Sunday morning. No bones were broken, but she is hurting all over. Keep Eva in your prayers.

Don Easlon underwent oral surgery last week due to a problem with an implanted tooth. He had a speedy recovery.

Remember to keep **Larry May** in your prayers as he is scheduled for a heart procedure on Tuesday, September 12th in Lubbock.

Concerns Update

Winford Hambright went home from the hospital (late afternoon) Sunday, August 27th. He was diagnosed with strep in his leg which caused the swelling and a problem with his blood sugar which has to get regulated again since being in the hospital. Winford was prescribed antibiotics three times a day. Please keep him in your prayers.

Ora McAfee was released on Tuesday, August 29th to go to Madison Medical Resort for rehab on her left knee. Ora had knee replacement surgery on the 23rd. She seems to be doing very well.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; Lee Roy Bell, Jane Burroughs; Harold Carrigan; John Cole; Sue Dahlen; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Glenda Driver; John Ford; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Maria Guzman; Anna Groves; Glenda Hillis; Cathy Irby; Janis Laminack; Betty Leeth; Kristen Limb; Eliseo Lopez; Alana May; Glenna McCarty; Russ Montgomery; Tanya Nichols; Curtis Parum; Trina Plyler; Elvia Ruckman; Ryan Charles Rutledge; Susan Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; James Weaver; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Who anointed Solomon to be king?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer... The first two words of the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples began with, "Our Father".

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "**Speaking the Truth in Love**" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

"**Ladies Retreat**" is at Promise Land on September 15th–16th. There is a signup sheet posted on our bulletin board. Please make sure you sign it if you plan on attending the retreat.

The "**20th Annual Lubbock Lectureship**" at the Southside Church of Christ in Lubbock is scheduled for October 8th–11th, 2017. The Theme is "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth. The flyer showing all the speakers for this year is posted on the bulletin board.

Office News

The "**New Mexico Children's Home**" will be back in Odessa September 7th, 2017. They are requesting **applesauce**. Monetary donations also accepted.

Definition of a Christian

He has a mind and knows it.

He has a will and shows it.

He sees the way and goes it.

He draws the line and toes it.

He has a chance and takes it.

A friendly hand, he shakes it.

A rule; He never breaks it.

If there's not time, he makes it.

He loves the truth; stands by it.

Never, ever tries to show it.

Whoever may deny it,

or openly defy it.

He hears a lie and slays it.

He owes a debt and pays it.

And, as I have heard him praise it,

He knows the game and plays it.

He sees the path Christ trod,
and grips the hand of God.

September 3, 2017 A.M.

Announcements Jeff Wesson
 Song Leader Craig Wesson
 Sermon Allen Weakland
 Opening Prayer Jeff Wesson
 Scripture Josh Weakland
 Second Prayer Larry May
 Closing Prayer Bill Tolbert

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
 Cody Wesson
 Allen Weakland
 Jeff Wesson
 Josh Wells
 Charles Wood
 Mike Roemisch

Lord's Supper

West...

Jacob Carson

Jr. Munoz

Bill Ryan

Don Easlon

Communion

(In Library)

East...

Josh Wells

Trinidad Wood

Tommy Garcia

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5302; *Deacon*: Rudy Ochoa ; *Pulpit*: Bill Tolbert 381-5564;
Table: Don Easlon 288-5834; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486;
Collections: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM*"Faith Rising into Assurance"**(Romans 8:31-39)***Sunday PM***"Great Commission"**(Matthew 28:16-20)***Our Records***Bible Class... 71**Morning Worship...125**Evening Worship...65**Wednesday...90**Contribution...\$4,396.00*