

The Relationship of Christ to His Churches

REVIEW:

- a. The Biblical METAPHORS of a church.
 - i. The BODY.
 - ii. The BUILDING.
 - iii. The BRIDE.
- b. These metaphors do two things:
 - i. They give us insight as to the NATURE of a church.
 - ii. They show the RELATIONSHIP of Christ to His churches.

I. THE BODY OF CHRIST:

- a. Scriptures — Romans 12:4-5; I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18.
- b. A New Testament church is likened to a _____ body.
- c. The _____ of _____ is the _____ (assembly).
- d. Like the human body we possess, the Body of Christ is:
 - i. Local.
 - ii. Visible.
 - iii. Organized.
 - iv. Constituted.
- e. A body speaks of _____ — Romans 12:1.
 - The service to be done is the fulfilling of the _____ — Mark 16:15.
- f. With any body — human or church — there is:
 - i. _____ — Romans 12:4-8; I Corinthians 12:4-7.
 - ii. _____ — I Corinthians 12:12-13,20.
 - iii. _____ — I Corinthians 12:22-26.
- g. Christ is the _____ of the Body.
 - i. A head _____ the body.
 - ii. Christ is not a _____.
 - iii. A Baptist Church is NOT _____, but _____.

II. THE TEMPLE OF GOD (BUILDING):

- a. Scriptures: I Corinthians 3:9-10,16-17; Ephesians 2:19-22; I Timothy 3:15; I Peter 2:6-8.
- b. A TEMPLE (Old & New Testaments) is the _____ of God among men.
- c. The SIX Temples:

TEMPLE	AUTHENTICATION
Tabernacle in the Wilderness	Exodus 40:34
Solomon's Temple	II Chronicles 7:1
Christ's human body	Matthew 3:16-17 (John 2:19-21)
A Christian's body	I Corinthians 6:19
The New Testament Church	Acts 2:1-4
The Millennial Temple	Ezekiel 43:4
God's manifest presence shows divine _____	

- d. The _____ of the Building — Ephesians 2:20.
- i. The New Testament — II Peter 3:2; Jude 17; Romans 16:25-26; Ephesians 3:5.
 - ii. Christ the _____ — I Corinthians 3:11.
- e. A Baptist Church is the _____ & _____ of the _____ — I Timothy 3:15; Philippians 2:16.
- f. A temple is the place for _____ service — I Peter 2:5,9.
- i. _____ — spiritual sacrifices — Hebrews 13:15-16.
 - ii. _____ — Ephesians 2:18; Hebrews 7:25.
 - iii. _____ — verse 9.
 - iv. This is the doctrine of the _____ of BELIEVERS — I Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 4:16.

III. THE BRIDE OF CHRIST:

- a. Scriptures: John 3:29; II Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:23-27; Revelation 19:7-9; 22:17.
- b. A major contentious controversy — the _____ position.
- c. We believe in a _____ Church Bride.
- d. Christ is the BRIDEGROOM.
- e. JOHN the BAPTIST is the GROOMSMAN — John 3:29.
- f. The DOWRY or Bride Price — Acts 20:28.
- g. The wedding procession — Matthew 25:6,13. This is at the RAPTURE.
- h. The MARRIAGE — Revelation 19:7-9.
- i. The HONEYMOON — the Millennial Kingdom on earth.
- j. The New HOME — John 14:2; Revelation 21:2.
- k. A Bride is to maintain her PURITY — II Corinthians 11:2.
 - i. This is done through the ministry of the WORD — Ephesians 5:26-27.
 - ii. It can be lost through Satan's DECEPTION — II Corinthians 2:17; Revelation 2:20-24.
 - iii. A corrupted "Church" becomes the Great WHORE — Revelation 17.