

Revision: Rethinking Church III

“His Body”

NKJ Ephesians 1:22 And He put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Consider *Ephesians 1:23* The church is His body.

ἔστιν (estin) Verb - Present Indicative Active - 3rd Person Singular
Strong's Greek 1510: I am, exist. The first person singular present indicative; a prolonged form of a primary and defective verb; I exist.

Which “is” his body: always, at all times, everywhere, continuous and unbroken.

The Church is Christ's body in a real though spiritual sense.

He is the Head; his people are the members.

Just like He the Vine, they the branches.

He dwells in the Church as life dwells in a living body.

*“He fills it with his life, replenishes it with his strength, feeds it with his body and blood, beautifies it with his comeliness, calms it with his peace, brightens it with his holiness, and finally glorifies it with his glory.” **The Pulpit Commentary***

I

The body is a living organized organism.

The body is The Church on earth, an ever-changing body, perpetually receiving new members.

- The body is in a state of filling, never filled

The members are set in the body as it pleases Him.

Consider *1Corinthians 12:15-18*

1 Corinthians 12:15 If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶ And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? ¹⁸ But now hath **God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.**

II

The body is a multi- membered organism.

There many kinds of members in the body.

As the empty cells of the honeycomb are being filled with the sweet essences of flowers, so the empty vessels of the Church are being filled with the glorious treasures of God.

- Every part is needed.

NLT Ephesians 4:16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As **each part does its own special work**, it **helps the other parts grow**, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

III

The body has unity and diversity, different but in many ways the same.

He is the head we are the body; one body has many members.

The body works together, every part doing its share.

Consider *1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

KJV 1 Corinthians 12:4 Now there are **diversities of gifts**, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are **differences of administrations**, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are **diversities of operations**, but it is the same God which worketh all in all

NLT 1 Corinthians 12:4 There are different **kinds of spiritual gifts**, but the same Spirit is the source of them all. ⁵ There are different **kinds of service**, but we serve

the same Lord. ⁶ God **works in different ways**, but it is the same God who does the work in all of us.

*“Individuals who come to faith in Christ join a new community, a new humanity, in which there is fellowship and communion with the Lord and with each other.” **The Pulpit Commentary***

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