

**Outline of
the Messages for the Full-time Training
in the Fall Term of 2006**

GENERAL SUBJECT: THE REALITY OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Message Five

Being in the Reality of the Body of Christ by Living in the Mingled Spirit

Scripture Reading: Rom. 8:4; 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 6:17; 12:12-13, 27; Eph. 2:22; 4:16, 23

I. God's unique purpose is to mingle Himself with us so that He becomes our life, our nature, and our content, and we become His expression—John 14:20; 15:4-5; Eph. 3:16-21; 4:4-6:

- A. In His economy God mingles Himself with us to become one entity with us—1 Cor. 6:17.
- B. We may be saved to the extent that we and God are completely mingled as one, having one life and one living—John 15:4-5; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:19-21a.

II. The Body of Christ is the enlargement of Christ, the God-man, the One who is the mingling of God and man—Luke 1:31-35; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:16:

- A. We need to understand the Body of Christ from the perspective of the mingling of God and man.
- B. In the Gospels the mingling of God and man produced the Head; in Acts the enlargement of the mingling of God and man produced the Body of Christ—1:22-23; 4:15-16.
- C. In Ephesians 4:4-6 four persons—the Body, the Spirit, the Lord, and God the Father—are actively mingled together:
 - 1. The Father is embodied in the Son, the Son is realized as the Spirit, and the Spirit is mingled with the believers.
 - 2. This mingling is the constitution of the Body of Christ.
- D. The processed and consummated Triune God mingles Himself with His chosen people in their humanity, and the mingling is the genuine oneness of the Body of Christ—v. 3; John 17:21-23.
- E. The church as the Body of Christ is a group of people who allow God to be mingled with them and who are mingled with God—Eph. 3:16-21.
- F. The reality of the Body of Christ is a living by the God-men, who are united, mingled, and constituted together with God by the mingling of humanity with divinity and divinity with humanity—4:1-6, 15-16.

III. The Body of Christ is absolutely a matter in the mingled spirit; thus, to be in the reality of the Body of Christ is to live in the mingled spirit—Rom. 8:4; 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 6:17; 12:12-13, 27; Eph. 2:22; 4:16, 23:

- A. The union of God and man is a union of the two spirits, the Spirit of God and the spirit of man (1 Cor. 2:11-16); the union of these two spirits is the deepest mystery in the Bible.

- B. The focus of God's economy is the mingled spirit, the divine Spirit mingled with the human spirit; whatever God intends to do or accomplish is related to this focus—Eph. 3:9, 5; 1:17; 2:22; 4:23; 5:18; 6:18.
- C. The implications of 1 Corinthians 6:17 are marvelous and far-reaching:
 - 1. To be one spirit with the Lord implies that we are in Him and that He is in us—John 15:4-5.
 - 2. We and He have been organically mingled, blended, to become one in life; we and Christ are one wonderful, living entity—1 Cor. 12:12.
 - 3. We, the complete and entire person—our entire being—and the Lord are one spirit.
- D. The mingled spirit is both the Spirit of the Lord and our spirit—Rom. 8:4; 2 Cor. 3:17; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 6:17.
- E. The mingled spirit is a spirit that is one spirit with God and that is the same as God in His life and nature but not in His Godhead—1 John 5:11; 2 Pet. 1:4:
 - 1. The divine Spirit and the human spirit are mingled as one within us so that we can live the life of a God-man, a life that is God yet man and man yet God—Gal. 2:20; Phil. 1:19-21a.
 - 2. The God-man living is the living of the two spirits, the Spirit of God and the spirit of man, joined and mingled together as one.
- F. To be proper Christians, we must know that the Lord Jesus today, as the embodiment of the Triune God, is the Spirit indwelling our spirit and is mingled with our spirit as one spirit—2 Cor. 3:17; 1 Cor. 15:45b; 6:17.
- G. All genuine spiritual experiences are in the mingled spirit—Rom. 8:4.
- H. By being one spirit with the Lord, we can experience Christ as the all-inclusive One and take Him as everything—1 Cor. 1:2, 24, 30; 2:8, 10; 3:11; 5:7-8; 10:3-4; 11:3; 12:12; 15:20, 45, 47.
- I. For anyone who is one spirit with the Lord, the supply is inexhaustible—Phil. 1:19; 4:23.
- J. Ultimately, the Bible requires only one thing of us—that we walk according to the mingled spirit—Rom. 8:4:
 - 1. The key to everything is found in the wonderful Spirit who is in our regenerated spirit and who has become one spirit with our spirit.
 - 2. To live in the spirit is to let Christ fill and saturate us until He permeates our whole being and is thereby expressed through us—Eph. 2:22; 3:16-21.
 - 3. The mutual abiding in John 15:4-5 is the practice of being one spirit with the Lord.
 - 4. The best way to silence Satan is to live in the spirit—Rev. 12:11:
 - a. Whether or not we are under Satan's authority is not determined by the things we do; rather, it is determined by whether we are in the spirit or in the flesh—Gal. 5:16-17.
 - b. As long as we remain in the mingled spirit, we will be kept, and Satan will have no way with us—1 John 5:4, 18-21.
- K. We need to exercise the spirit of faith—the Spirit mingled with our spirit—to believe and speak what we have experienced of the Lord—2 Cor. 4:13.
- L. We enter into the reality of the Body of Christ by walking according to the mingled spirit—Rom. 8:4.