

**Outline of  
the Messages for the Full-time Training  
in the Spring Term of 2007**

-----

**GENERAL SUBJECT: THE BELIEVERS**

Message Four

**Their Status**

(2)

**Members of Christ as the Head of the Body  
and Partners of Christ as God's Anointed**

Scripture Reading: Eph. 5:30; Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:18-27; Heb. 3:14; Rev. 17:12-14

- I. The believers are slaves of Christ (1 Cor. 7:22), priests of Christ (Rev. 1:6; 5:10), co-kings of Christ (20:6; 2:26-27), partakers of the Holy Spirit (Heb. 6:4), and heavenly citizens (Phil. 3:20a).**
  
- II. The believers are members of Christ as the Head of the Body—1 Cor. 6:15, 17; Eph. 5:30; Rom. 12:4-5; 1 Cor. 12:18-27:**
  - A. Because we are organically united with Christ and because Christ dwells in our spirit and makes His home in our heart, our entire being, including our purified body, becomes a member of Him—6:15, 17; 2 Tim. 4:22a; Eph. 3:17a:
    1. To be one spirit with the Lord is to enter into an organic union with Him; this organic union makes it possible for our bodies to be the members of Christ—1 Cor. 6:15-17.
    2. Christ is spreading from our spirit to our soul and from our soul to our body; in this way our bodies become His members—Rom. 8:6, 10-11.
  - B. As members of Christ, we are produced out of Him to be His parts—Eph. 5:30; Gen. 2:22-23; John 19:20, 34:
    1. In the Body there is no room for our natural life and fallen human nature.
    2. In order to be members of Christ as the Head of the Body, we need to be one with Christ in life and nature—3:15; 2 Pet. 1:4.
    3. It is the element of Christ in us that makes us His members—Col. 1:27; 3:4, 10-11:
      - a. A member of Christ is a person produced with the element of Christ, who is the life-giving Spirit in our spirit—1 Cor. 15:45b; 2 Tim. 4:22a.
      - b. Only that which comes out of Christ can be recognized by Christ; only that which is produced out of Christ can be a part of Him—Gen. 2:22-23; Eph. 3:17a; 5:30.
  - C. As members of Christ, we have been produced out of Him, and we are being composed and blended together by God to be the Body—1 Cor. 12:18-27; Rom. 12:4-5:
    1. Blending is the secret of the Body life—1 Cor. 12:24.

2. We need to be blended so that we may have the actuality and practicality of the Body, seen in the functioning of all the members—vv. 18, 27.
3. The divine life within us has the inclination to be joined with other members of the Body and to be blended together with them—Rom. 12:4-5:
  - a. This life, the life of Christ, which is the divine life, is the life of the Body of Christ—John 3:15; Col. 3:4, 15.
  - b. This life connects us to all the believers and causes us to love them—Rom. 12:9a, 19a.
4. We are many members, not separate units; as members, we need to coordinate with one another so that we may be a living, functioning Body—vv. 4-8.
- D. In the Body of Christ everyone is a member and nothing more than a member—v. 5; 1 Cor. 12:18, 27:
  1. Those who see that they are members will treasure the Body and honor the other members—vv. 25-26; Phil. 2:4.
  2. Every member has a particular portion with which he serves the Body of Christ—Eph. 4:7, 16; Rom. 12:4-8.
  3. The activities of the members of the Body must have the Body in view; everything that the members do should be for the Body—Eph. 4:16.
  4. The Body of Christ is a limitation to all the members; every member must accept the limitation of the Body—2 Cor. 10:13.
  5. Every member affects other members; this is why we should not live in ourselves but should hold the Head and seek the fellowship—Col. 2:19; Philem. 8-9, 14.

### **III. The believers are partners of Christ as God's Anointed—Heb. 3:14:**

- A. We are partners of Christ as God's Anointed in God's anointing with the oil of exultant joy—1:9:
  1. As partners of Christ, we are partners in His anointing—2 Cor. 1:21; Psa. 133:2.
  2. In God's economy Christ is God's appointed and anointed One to accomplish God's plan, and we are Christ's partners in the divine interest.
  3. We are partners of Christ, sharing with Him the spiritual anointing as the members share with the Head the Spirit—2 Cor. 1:21; Psa. 133:2.
- B. As Christ's partners, we participate with Him in carrying out God's commission—Heb. 3:14:
  1. Christ was anointed by God, and we share with Him in this anointing for the fulfillment of God's purpose—Luke 4:18; Psa. 133:2.
  2. God has a great "corporation," and this corporation is a partnership:
    - a. God's operation in His corporation is to work out a glorious expression of Himself—Heb. 2:10; John 17:22.
    - b. Christ has been appointed to head God's "corporation of glory," and as partners of Christ, we have the same interest and concern.
- C. Joshua was the leader, and Caleb was his partner, comrade, companion, in possessing the good land; today Christ is the real Joshua, and we are His Calebs in God's ultimate move—Num. 13:30; 14:6-8; Rev. 17:12-14; 19:11-16.