

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 10 - Part 1

JESUS CHRIST, HEAD OF THE CHURCH, AND FUTURE REIGN

Jesus Christ as Head of the Church

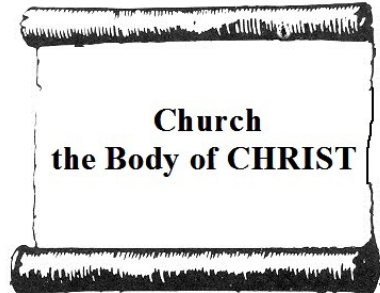
1. What is the work of Jesus Christ as High Priest?

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2. The work of Jesus Christ as High Priest was as a sacrifice and now as an intercessor.

In this lesson we want to learn that Jesus Christ is Head of the church. As Head or Leader of the church, Jesus Christ:

- cleanses the church
- makes the church to grow
- gives gifts to the church
- is the hope of the church
- prepares a place for the church in heaven



The church is called the body of Christ. We become part of the church, the body of Christ, when we accept Jesus Christ as Saviour. At this time the Holy Spirit puts us into or baptizes us into the Body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:12,13

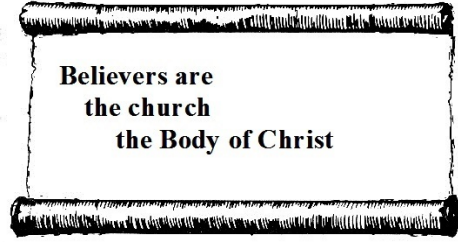
The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

When we accept Christ as Saviour, of whose Body do we become a part?

3. We become a part of the Body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:27

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.



What are believers called?

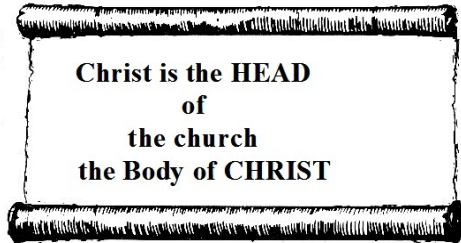
4. Believers are called the Body of Christ. In the human body we have many parts - head, lungs, feet, hands, heart, eyes, and many other parts. All the parts are important. They all must work together to have a healthy body.

In the body, what part tells the other parts what to do?

5. In the body, the head tells the other parts what to do. The head tells the foot to walk, the eye to see, and the hand to take.

Ephesians 5:23

For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

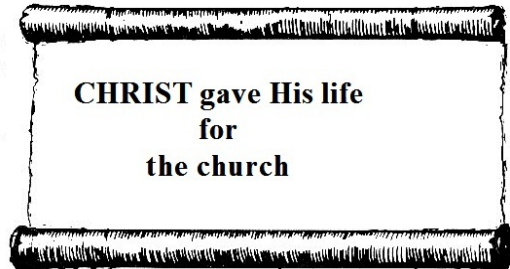


Who is the Head of the church?

6. Christ is the Head of the church.

Colossians 1:18

And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy (most



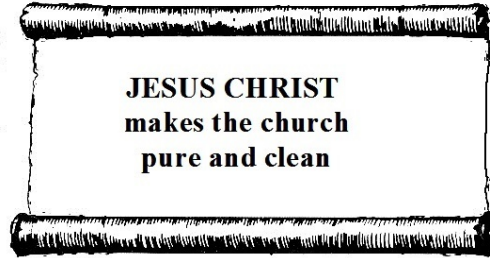
important place).

Who has the most important place in the church?

7. Jesus Christ has the most important place in the church. Christ loves the church. He gave His life for the church. He desires the very best for the church.

Ephesians 5:25-27

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

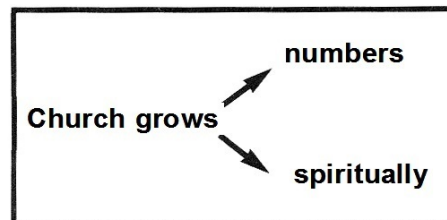


Christ loves the church. He wants the church to be clean. He does this through the water of the Word. As believers read the Word of God, they see their sin and ask Jesus to make them clean and pure. When Jesus makes them clean and pure, He makes them holy.

What does Jesus do for the church?

8. Jesus makes the church clean and pure. He makes it holy.

Jesus wants the church to grow. A church can grow in numbers. The church can also grow spiritually. Both are important in the Body of Christ. When the church first began in Jerusalem, it grew in numbers.

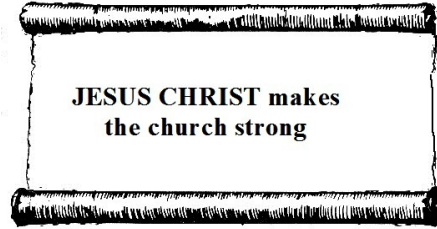


Acts 2:47

Praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

How did the church grow?

9. The church grew in numbers. Many people believed in Jesus Christ and the Body of Christ grew. To grow spiritually, the believers need lots of strength from Christ. People are not strong in themselves. They need a lot of help to grow strong. The church needs help to grow strong.



Colossians 2:19 (NLB)

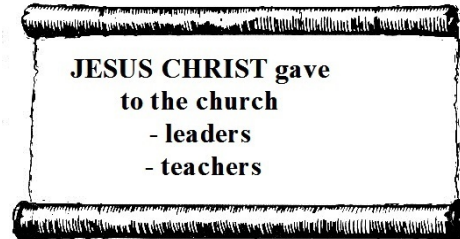
... Christ is the Head. We Christians make up His body. We are joined together as a body is held together. Our strength to grow comes from Christ.

Who makes the church strong?

10. Jesus Christ makes the church strong. To make the church grow, Jesus Christ also gave to the church men who could lead and teach.

Ephesians 4:11

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers.



What kind of men did Jesus give to the church?

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11. Jesus Christ gave to the church 1) apostles, 2) prophets, 3) evangelists, 4) pastors, and 5) teachers. He wants to use these men to make the church strong. The Bible says “to prepare God's people for works of service.”

Ephesians 4:12,13

To prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

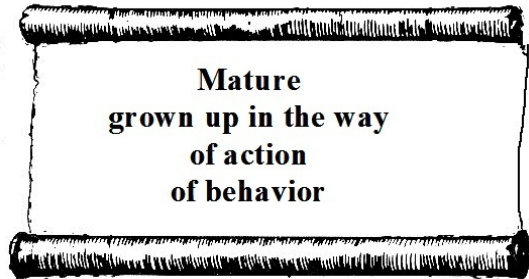
Jesus Christ wants the believers to be strong. The Bible says God's people are to become mature or grown-up. Jesus Christ lives in believers, He works through believers and He gives the church gifted men to teach and to make the church strong.

What does it mean to you that the church is to be mature or grown up?

12. To be mature may mean different things to different people. It does mean to be "grown up in the way we act or behave." It also means that we do not give up right away when things are hard nor change our mind quickly.

Read Ephesians 4:11-16.

In Romans 12:3-8, we read of several other gifts which Christ gives to the church. Believers do not all have the same gifts. They have different gifts, but each one has a gift.



Which is right?

- Christ gives the same gifts to all believers.
- Christ gives different gifts to different believers.

13. Christ gives different gifts to different believers. The believers are to work together to make the church strong. Everyone is to do his part.

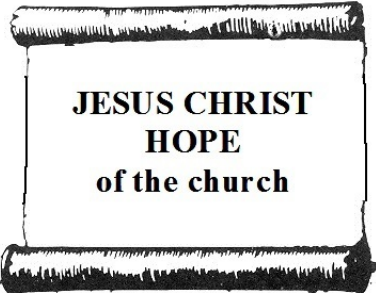
Who is the Leader or Head of the church?

What does He as Leader do for the church?

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- Jesus Christ is the hope of the church.
- Jesus Christ prepares a place for the church in heaven.

14. Jesus Christ is the Leader of the church. He cleanses the church. He makes the church grow. He gives gifts to the church. He is the hope of the church.

Colossians 1:27
To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.



What is Christ in you called?

15. Paul says that Christ in you is the hope of glory. A person without hope is miserable. He does not have any reason to live. He has no reason to do his work well.

Every person needs to have "hope." Some hope to get rich. Some hope to have friends. Some hope to have a home. Many hope to have love. Paul says that Jesus in you is the hope of glory. It is the hope of a heavenly home after death. Paul tells us it is important to have the hope of glory.

1 Corinthians 15:19
If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men.

Is our hope in Christ only for this life or also for the life after death?

16. Christ in you gives you the hope of

glory - a home in heaven. The work of Christ is to prepare this home for the believers.



John 14:2,3

In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

Who is preparing a place in heaven?

17. Jesus is preparing a place in heaven. Those who have accepted Christ as Saviour, are the church. Christ is preparing a home for His body, the church, in heaven.

John 17:24

Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

Who will be with Jesus in heaven?

18. Jesus says those whom God has given to Him will be with Him in heaven.

Who is the Head of the church?

What does Jesus Christ do for the church?

- the church
- Makes
- Gives to the church
- Is the of the church
- for the church in heaven

Memorize John 14:1-3.

John 14:1-3

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.

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