

# **THE NEW WHOLE IS THE CHURCH**

**1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-30**

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12a

12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

13 For by one Spirit **we were all baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to **drink of one Spirit**. [??]

# **NATURE OF THE CHURCH**

- **Many Members, but One Body**
  - **Created by the Holy Spirit**
- **Numerous Gifts, but one Purpose**
  - **No division by differences**
- **The Lord's Supper is for All**
  - **Jesus is our Unity**

# 1 CORINTHIANS 12

**1** Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware. **2** You know that when you were pagans, you were led astray to the mute idols, however you were led. **3** Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, "Jesus is accursed"; and no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12b

4 Now there are varieties of **gifts**, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of **ministries**, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of **effects**, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit **for the common good**.

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12d

14 For the body is not one member, but many. 15 If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not **for this reason** any the less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

## 1 CORINTHIANS 12e

18 But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. 19 If they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now there are many members, but one body. 21 And **the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"**; or again the head to the feet, **"I have no need of you."**

# 1 CORINTHIANS 12f

**22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; 23 and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our less presentable members become much more presentable,**

# 1 CORINTHIANS 12g

24 whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, 25 so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

## AGA? Á? IS NOT 'LIKE'

**Jn. 13:34 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35 By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."**

**Colossians 3:14 Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity**

# MAINTAINING THE UNITY

Eph.4:1 Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, **implore** you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** with which you have been called, 2 with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, showing **tolerance** for one another in love, 3 being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

# 1 CORINTHIANS 11

17 But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together **not for the better but for the worse**. 18 For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that **divisions exist** among you; and in part I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, so that those who are approved may become evident among you.

## 1 CORINTHIANS 11b

20 Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, 21 for in your eating each one **takes his own supper first**; and one is hungry and another is drunk. 22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you **despise the church** of God and **shame** those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

## 1 CORINTHIANS 11c

23 For I received **from the Lord** that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took **bread**; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is **My body**, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is **the new covenant in My blood**; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## 1 CORINTHIANS 11d

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in **an unworthy manner**, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.

28 But a man must **examine himself**, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

# 1 CORINTHIANS 11e

29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not **judge the body** rightly.

30 For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.

# **BLOOD OF THE COVENANT**

**Deut. 12:23 Only be sure not to eat the blood, for the blood is the life, and you shall not eat the life with the flesh.**

**Lev. 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes atonement.'**

**Jn. 6:53 So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves.**



**Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.**

# **SOME PRINCIPLES TO OBSERVE**

- **The New Whole for Christians is the Church**
  - We must not divide nor separate
- **Each believer is gifted for the benefit of the church.**
  - Everyone must seek the good of the Church
- **Unlike Marriage, the Unity of the Church is Eternal**
  - Our fellowships must be maintained