

The Church: The Body of Christ

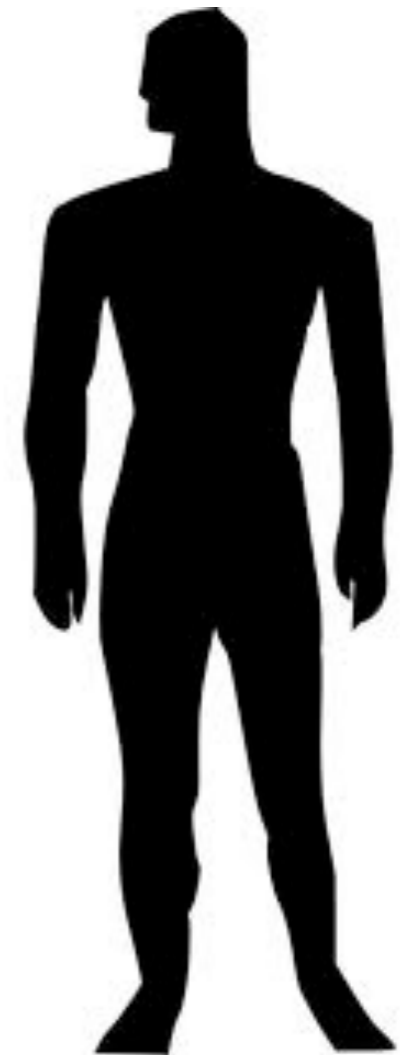
The Body's Relation To the Head

**The Church Is Called
the Body of Christ**

Church - One Body in Christ

Romans 12:4, 5 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

- The Head
- The Body
- Relation of the members to each other
- Relationship of the member to the head



Church - One Body in Christ

Col. 1:18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to have first place in everything.

- Our Relationship to Christ
- Our Relationship to fellow Christians



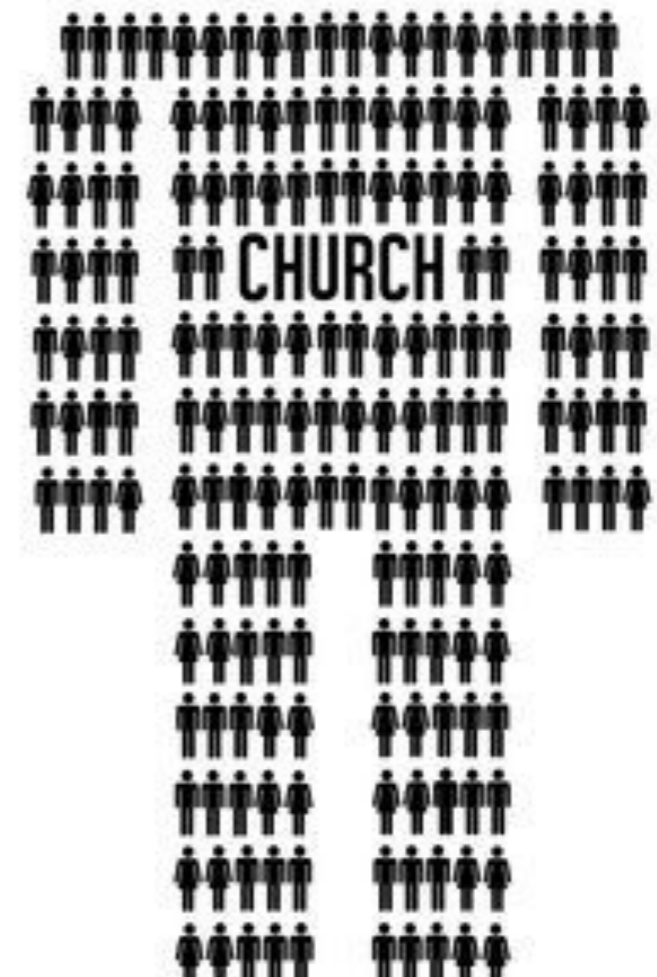
**There Is One Body
(Church)**

One Body

Eph. 4:4, 5 There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism,

- Christ is the one head of one body.
- The is not the one head of many bodies.
- Christ is not a monster.

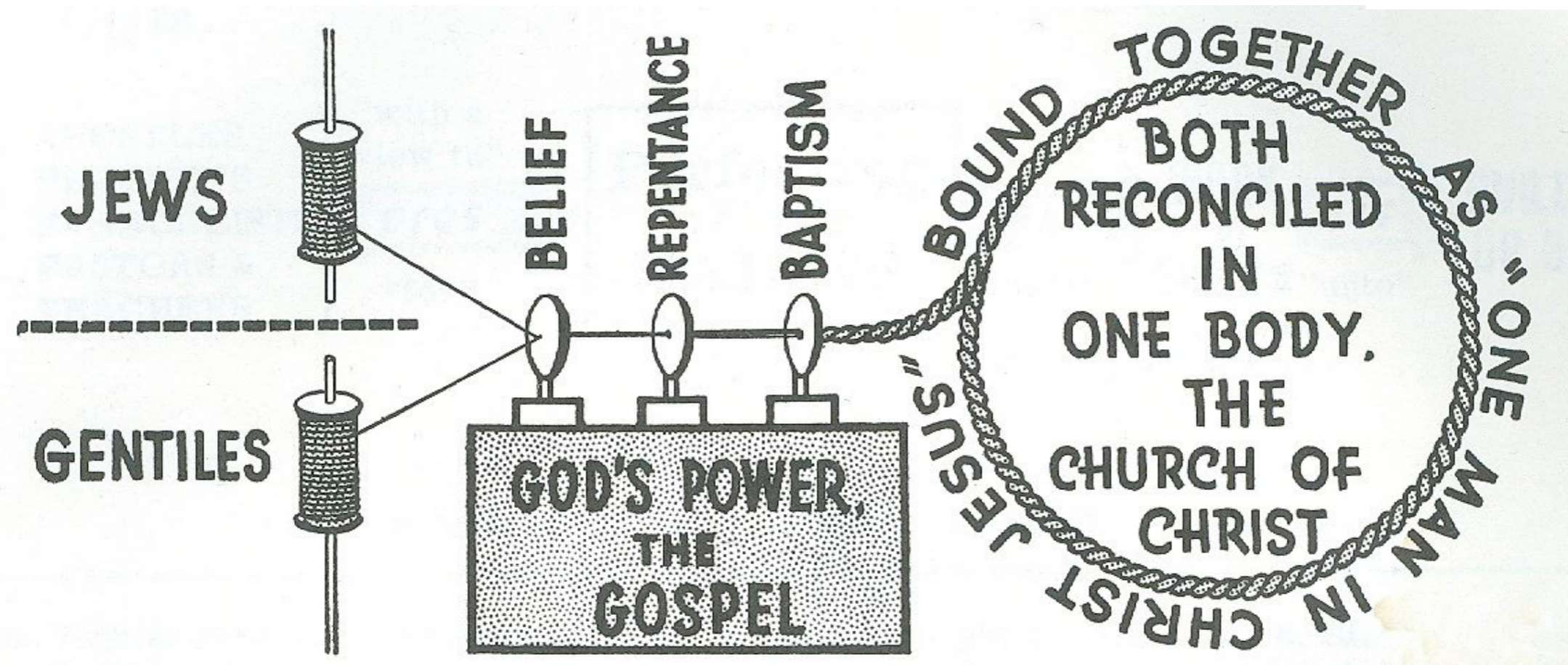
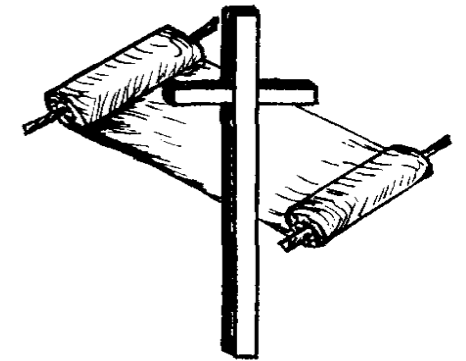
ONE HEAD. ONE BODY.



Called & Reconciled in

Eph. 2:16-18 and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. **AND HE CAME AND PREACHED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR AWAY, AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR;** for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.

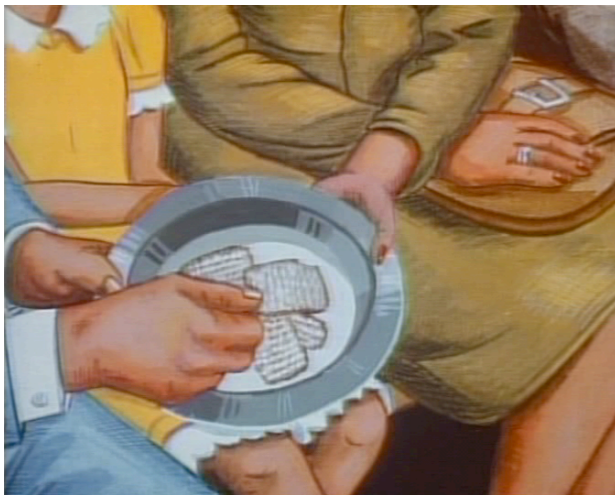
- Made friends again in the body, the church
- We were called into the peace of Christ



Share the Same Food

1 Cor. 10:15-17 I speak as to wise men; you judge what I say. Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ? Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

- The church - the spiritual body of Christ
- Gets its life & strength from Jesus' atoning death



Sharing the
One Bread
of Christ's
Body



Christ - Head of the Body

God Made Him Head

Eph. 1:20-23 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come.

And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.

- The church's authority
- The church's life
- Law making power
- Absolute authority
- Source of Wisdom & life



Members of Body: No Right To Legislate

Col. 2:8-10 See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form, and in Him you have been made complete, and He is the head over all rule and authority;

- No human philosophy (worldly wisdom, human reasoning)
- No traditions of men (man-made teaching & practice handed down)
- No elementary principles of world religions
- Do all according to Christ's teaching & authority
- He has all rule & authority in religion

Not Joined to Immorality

1 Cor. 6:14-17 Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take away the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? May it never be!

Or do you not know that the one who joins himself to a harlot is one body with *her*? For He says, "THE TWO WILL BECOME ONE FLESH." But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

- As member's of Christ's body - our bodies are His
- We should not join a part of Christ to immorality
- We are one spirit with Christ - act accordingly

All Members To Grow To Be Like Christ

Eph. 4:12, 13 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ.

- His body must grow into the fulness of its position in Him
- All offices or works of Apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds & teachers are gifts to help the body grow
- All saints are work for the perfecting of the church
- We are to grow to unity in the faith, full knowledge & maturity

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- Grow to the stature of Christ

The Head Coordinates & Supplies Growth

Eph. 4:15-16 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

- Christ is the source of all our growth & coordination as a body
- Each member follows His instructions & guidance
- Each one uses his gifts for the growth of all
- By following Christ's teaching we will grow in strength & love

Hold Fast to the Head

Col. 2:18, 19 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

- Don't listen the false teaching of men
- Hold to Jesus Christ & His authority and saving power
- He supplies with all spiritual blessings we need to grow

Baptized Into the Body

1 Cor. 12:13 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.

- by one Spirit = under the influence of the Holy Spirit, He leads all to obey His teaching - tells us to be baptized
- **Jn. 3:5** both water & the Holy Spirit have their part
- The Spirit provides the gospel that cause conversion
- The apostles preached the Spirit's word, **1 Pet. 1:21; 1 Cor. 4:15**
- Baptism put one into the church - the results of baptism **Acts 2:47; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21**
- One cannot be saved & still be outside the body, the church
- We all alike drink - receive blessings of salvation from the one Spirit