

Senior Pastor Prince Guneratnam
 Title: Members of His Body
 Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

(1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being 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 have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. 15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. 19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be? 20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. 23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unrepresentable parts have greater modesty, 24 but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, 25 that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

INTRODUCTION

- The body is one with many members (V 12)
- Made one by the baptism of the Spirit (V 13)
- Made one by the drinking into one Spirit
- The body is not one member but many (V 14)
- God has set the members as it pleases Him (V 18)
- Weak [delicate] members are necessary [indispensable] (V 22)
- Less honorable members are bestowed greater honor (V 23)
- Unrepresentable parts have greater modesty (V 23)
- Presentable parts have no need to be given honor (V 24)
- Parts that lack [inferior members] have greater honor [richly endowed] (V 24)
- There be no criticism, strife [discord] or division (V 25)
- Same care for one another (V 25)
- One member suffers or honored – all suffers or honored (V 26)
- You are the body and members individually (V 27)

Summary

- Many members make up the Body – which is one!
- Its significance comes not as an individual but as one body
- Its oneness lies in the anointing and indwelling of the Holy Spirit and is not by carnal or fleshly means.

(Isaiah 61:3)

“To console those who mourn in Zion,
 To give them beauty for ashes,
 The oil of joy for mourning,
 The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
 That they may be called trees of righteousness,”
 The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”

- God will uproot, what He has not planted.

GOD HAS SET THE MEMBERS AS IT PLEASES HIM

(1 Corinthian 12:18)

“But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased”

- It is the planting of the Lord

(Psalm 92:14-15)

13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing, 15 To declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

- God decides which member you should be.

(1 Corinthians 12:15-17; 21-22)

15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” 22 No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary.

- The whole body is not just one member

(1 Corinthians 12:19)

“And if they were all one member, where would the body be?”

THE BODY IS MADE UP BY THE BAPTISM AND DRINKING INTO ONE SPIRIT

- Baptism – is outward
- Drinking – is inward

(1 Corinthians 12:13-14)

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being 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 have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

(Psalm 133)

1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.

(Ephesians 5:18)

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,”

(John 7:37-38)

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

AS A BODY WE ARE KINGS AND PRIESTS

(Revelation 1:4-6)

4 John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful

witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Jesus has called us to be and Kings and Priests.

- Priests – provide for the vision’

(Amos 3:7)

“Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.”

(Psalm 25:14)

“The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant”

- God told Moses about the Promised Land (Exodus 3:7-8)
- God told Elijah about the Syrians (2 Kings 6:8-12)
- God told Daniel things that the King should know
- Kings consistently sought the prophets for vision and revelation.
 - King Saul and the Prophet Samuel (the battle with the Amalekites) (1 Samuel 15:1-3)
 - King David and the Prophet Nathan (2 Samuel 7:1-17)
 - Heathen kings sought guidance and direction from witchcraft, sorcery and spirits. When King Saul was backslidden, he sought after mediums (1 Samuel 28:5-7)

CONCLUSION

- As individuals, we have gifts to serve the Body

(1 Corinthians 12:28-30)

28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

- Other gifts

(Romans 12:3-8)

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, 5 so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. 6 Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; 7 or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; 8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

- Gifts are to benefit all

(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.