

# SEMINAR\_08 – THE BODY OF CHRIST: THE CHURCH

*"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature:  
old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

*~ 2 Corinthians 5:17*

## 1. Intro

- a. We started with an identity crisis – Christianity finds identity, truth, wisdom, life in Christ
- b. People ask me is it necessary for someone to know MAD Pauline Disp to be saved
- c. The ground of MAD is not "*this is for you, this is not*", it is identifying true Christianity
- d. True Christianity is not Judaism, not Israel, not brotherhood of man, but the church

## 2. The Body of Christ as a necessary for Christianity

- a. The denial of this fundamental denies the ministry and mission of Christ
- b. In recent years it has been trendy to say, "I love Jesus, not the church"
  - i. If by that they mean tradition, religion, law, and self-righteousness, then good
  - ii. If they mean organized ministry with other members of Christ's body, then bad
- c. **Without church there is no Christianity**, Christ the Head, the body is here Co 1:24
- d. The church, the house of God, is the pillar and ground of the truth - 1 Tim 3:15
- e. The reason why the church will never disappear is because it is a fundamental.
- f. The Body of Christ is his members on earth – this begets ministry to each other.

## 3. The Church is the Body of Christ

- a. This fundamental speaks to Christ's deity, resurrection, gospel, involvement, **ministry**
- b. Remember when there was not the church – Eph 2:10-22
- c. If any man be in Christ he is a new creature – Gal 6:15, 2 Cor 5:17
- d. Gave him to be the Head over all things to the church, which is His body - Eph 1:17-23
- e. We are all baptized into one Body - 1 Cor 12:13; know ye not – 1 Cor 3:16, **Rom 8:9**
- f. Without the Body of Christ you have Israel, religion, nation, covenant laws
- g. There was a reason fundamental fighters were mainly dispensational, Bible belief/literal
  - i. The priority of Pauline study strengthens this fundamental – Luther Rom 5:1
- h. Christ alone during the Reformation – spoke against the Popes, priests, class mediation

## 4. The Body of Christ is Pauline

- a. You can only deny this by denying Paul – Paul teaches the mystery of Christ-church.
- b. George Bernard Shaw reportedly said the world would be a better place without Paul
- c. Jews understand that Christianity is Pauline; Jesus was a Jewish rabbi
- d. Muslims understand; Jesus was a great prophet, Paul "corrupted" Jesus teachings.
- e. In Paul's writings alone we find the doctrine, position, walk, and destiny of the church.
- f. The "fellowship of the mystery" concerns the church, the Body of Christ – 1 Cor 10:16-17
- g. **The communion of the Holy Ghost** – this is the church – the Body - 2 Cor 13:14
- h. We who are Pauline affirm the fundamentals, because we know where the church is
- i. Our job is to make all men see – Eph 3:9 – the church of Jesus Christ, the truth of Christ, the Godhead of Christ, the Person of Christ, the work of Christ, the power of Christ, the judgment of Christ, because we are the Body of Christ.

**The seminar theme:**

The foundation – Jesus Christ is the foundation of Christianity. Our identity as Christians is wrapped up in the fundamental doctrines of Christ. Yet, not Jesus Christ preached any way, but Jesus Christ according to the revelation of the mystery.

Jesus Christ is God – and we see that in every fundamental.

Bible – Fundamental to knowing the Truth – Truth of Christ.

Trinity – Fundamental to knowing the true God. (Col 2:9) - Godhead of Christ

Person of Christ – Fundamental to knowing Christ as God and Saviour. – Natures of Christ

Salvation – Fundamental to the work of Christ toward men. – Love, mercy, grace of Christ.

Resurrection – Fundamental to knowing Christ in us, the hope of glory. – The power of Christ.

Judgment – Fundamental to knowing the authority of Christ. – The judgment of Christ.

Body of Christ – Fundamental to knowing the ministry of Christ.