



Rehearsing the Word

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Overall Theme:

While most of Christian ministry and activity is focused on the individual believer, we must admit we are members of the body of Christ. The body expresses what the spirit of a person receives and the soul of a person perceives. Therefore, how we fit together with other members of the body and what we contribute to the body is of paramount importance. Each member of the body has something to contribute. However, evaluating our personal lives outside the context of Yahshua's body is misplaced and troublesome. This is precisely what Paul was explaining to the Corinthians in chapter 11. He even went so far as to suggest that many were sick and even slept (died) because of a dysfunctional relationship with the body of Christ.

Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner (note: this does not pertain to one's worthiness to partake, but rather how you partake...by faith in Yahshua's finished work) should eat and drink judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. 30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. 33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. 34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come. 1 Corinthians 11:27-34

The ultimate purpose of the body of Christ is to evangelize, discipleship and establish the kingdom of Christ in the earth in all spheres of influence and expression. The only hope enemies of Christ have to neutralize His kingdom is to attack His spiritual body today just as they attacked His physical body on the cross. WE NEED RESURRECTION POWER TO RAISE UP YAHSHUA'S BODY TODAY!! Of course this was and is only possible by Holy Spirit, Who alone has the power to give life (John6:63). Listen, you can't save, deliver or heal the old man, it has to die!!! We can't continue to stitch together a body of old parts and call it the body of Christ. Because of Yahshua the Christ, we are a new creation, a new man, a perfect (complete) man, recreated for a new heaven and a new earth.

So this is where we've been digging lately as it relates to being formed by Christ (Galatians 4:19), being conformed to the image of Christ (Romans 8:28-30) and being transformed by the renewing of your mindset and perspective (Romans 12:1-4) by taking on the mind of Christ (Romans 8:26-27).

This is where Paul's letter to the Philippians plays out so beautifully.

*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Yahshua the Christ, 21 **who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working (energeia: active power, operation, efficiency and work of the Spirit within us) by which***

He is able even to subdue (hupo/tasso – to appoint, place and set beneath Yahshua’s Lordship) all things to Himself.” Philippians 3:20-21

It states it so clearly here. Who will transform our lowly bodies and conform it to His glorious body? Yahshua, by the power of Holy Spirit will perform this on the inside of us in our spirit man. Read 1 Corinthians 2:9-16 and all of Romans 8 giving focused attention to every mention of Holy Spirit and Spirit.

Scriptures:

- Philippians 3:17-21
- Galatians 4:19-31
- Romans 8:28-30
- Romans 12:1-2
- 1 Corinthians 2:7-16 – Yahweh reveals everything by His Spirit
- Acts 8 and 19 – Have you received Holy Spirit since you believed?
- 2 Corinthians 4:10 – “We always carry about in the body the dying of the Lord Yahshua, that the life of Yahshua also may be manifest in our body.”
- 2 Corinthians 3:17-18 – “Where the Spirit of the LORD Yahshua is...there is LIBERTY.”

Key Word & Quotes:

- Form
- Transform
- Conform
- Body of Christ
- Spirit of Lordship
- A-MUSE-ment
- PRO-vision and DI-vision
- Depression, oppression and expression

Discussion Questions:

1. Amusement is to distract yourself by fixing your gaze on something other than what Yahweh authored and purposed. List some areas of “amusement” that continue to draw you away from Yahshua and His body.
2. Every kingdom expression requires the parts to become a whole or ONE. In marriage, the two become one flesh. The body of Christ is ONE but made up of many members. Discuss this facet of kingdom existence and examine areas of your life that still exist in parts and pieces.
3. What does it mean to always carry about in the body the dying of the Lord Yahshua? Is this just theoretical or can it be practical? Explain.
4. Explain how Christ is being formed in you. How are you conforming to His image? What mindsets are changing so you can further transform into His glorious body.
5. What does it mean to discern the Lord’s body in 1 Corinthians 11:27-34?
6. According to Scripture, how important is it to gather with the body of Christ locally on a frequent basis? What benefits should you be receiving? What challenges prevent you from doing so?
7. **CHILDREN:** Discuss the idea of the body of Christ in the context of the family and how Holy Spirit joins the members of the family together for a purpose.

Declarations and Appropriations

Father, you didn't start until you finished and you make all things well. Who am I to argue with your creative order and the arrangement of your kingdom? I am a member of a larger body of members that are joined and jointed by the Spirit of the Godhead. Therefore, I will see myself in context and worship you in spirit and truth by valuing what you value....the body of Christ. I realize just as Your enemies targeted Yahshua's body, they are targeting His ecclesia body in the earth today. However, resurrection power is flowing through my physical body as it is spiritually connected to Yahshua's corporate body. I value Yahshua's body and will seek to lay my life down for His body to flourish and prosper as a glorious expression of all Yahshua's expects. I will submit myself to LORD Yahshua so He may set and appoint me in the place He has prepared for me and I fully expect Holy Spirit to empower me from within to conform to Yahshua's divine image.

I identify with Yahshua's resurrected body and declare the my life and living will be a testimony of His power working in me and through me for something greater and well beyond me. For the KING and His KINGDOM!!