

# WHY

DO YOU need  
a CHURCH family

We Are the Body of Christ!

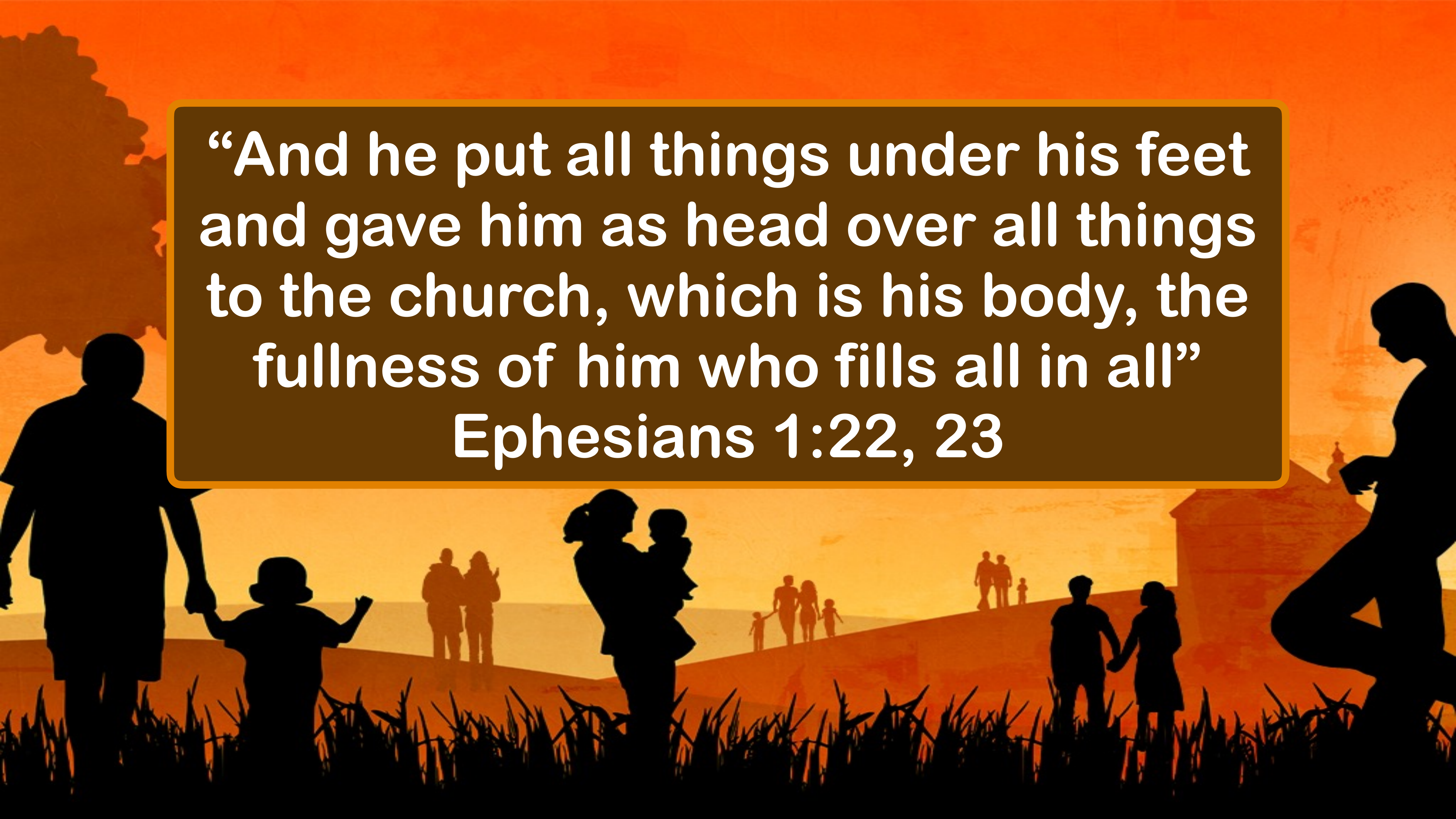
Part One  
The Fullness of Jesus

Ephesians 1:15-22



**“And he put all things under his feet  
and gave him as head over all things  
to the church, which is his body, the  
fullness of him who fills all in all”**

**Ephesians 1:22, 23**





## Building anticipation

Two points of praise (15):

- 1) Their faith in the Lord Jesus.
- 2) Their love for all the saints.

Prays that you may know:

- 1) The riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints
- 2) Immeasurable greatness of his power toward us  
who believe

And that He is “far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but in the age to come.” (21)

Building anticipation - a crescendo to the finale!

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the **fullness** of him who fills all in all. (23)

Fullness: **pleroma** - filled with the presence, power, agency, riches of God and of Christ.

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1:16

I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ. Romans 15:29



Fullness: **pleroma** - filled with the presence, power, agency, riches of God and of Christ.

The church is filled with Christ. The church is filled by Christ not only with His own life and presence but also with the gifts and blessings He bestows.

Expositor's Bible Commentary

Think globally, love locally



Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

Romans 12:4, 5

**One another = allelon**

100

It's used 100 times in 94 New Testament verses!

**It's impossible to be obedient to Christ without a commitment to a local church.**



“You’re life is much bigger than a good job, an understanding spouse, and non-delinquent kids. It is bigger than beautiful gardens, nice vacations, and fashionable clothes. In reality, you are part of something immense, something that began before you were born and will continue after you die. God is rescuing fallen humanity, transporting them into his kingdom, and progressively shaping them into his likeness - and he wants you to be part of it.”

**Dr. Paul David Tripp**





What will we risk if we only  
“date” our local church?

We will risk losing out on experiencing the “fullness of Him” who is the head of the church and fills His Body “all in all.” The fullest expression of His presence is found in the gathered Body of Christ.

**“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.” 1 Cor. 12:27**



Our Father, since you are infinitely worthy of praise;  
Jesus, since you are King over all things forever;  
Spirit, since we believe you have the power to take  
the hardest of hearts and minds and show them the  
beauty of Jesus and the ugliness of sin, we will go  
into all the world, our world. And we will love the  
gospel dearly, speak the gospel clearly, and live the  
gospel sincerely. For your glory, our joy, and for the  
peace of those who will be saved by your grace  
because we loved them enough to share.