

## JESUS, HEAD OF THE CHURCH

“And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.” (Colossians 1:18)

### I. HEAD OF THE CHURCH

- A. Unpacking life in the body; Paul’s prayer for the church (Ephesians 1:18-22)
  - 1. Praying that you would know the hope that He’s called you into together
  - 2. Hearts gathered together under Jesus’ Lordship
- B. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is the power that Paul is praying would be poured into the church (v. 20)
- C. Jesus is far above any other (v. 21)
- D. God placed all things under Jesus’ feet (v. 22)

### II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT JESUS TO BE THE ONLY HEAD OF THE CHURCH?

- A. He is the only head of the church, He shares His role with no one
  - 1. He has all authority (Matthew 28:18)
- B. Jesus rules over the church by His word
  - 1. Jesus has placed the Bible in the hands of the church
  - 2. Tells us what Jesus would believe and how He would live
  - 3. The word itself will judge us if we reject Jesus (John 12:48)
  - 4. His word is effective to teach, correct, and rebuke (2 Timothy 3:15-16)
  - 5. His word is able to save and help us grow
- C. Jesus rules over the church by His spirit
  - 1. It is when we receive His spirit at baptism that we become disciples (Acts 2:38)
  - 2. The Promised Counselor
  - 3. The Holy Spirit leads our ministries (Acts 16:6)
  - 4. The Holy Spirit leads our prayers (Romans 8:26)
  - 5. The Holy Spirit leads our resurrection (Romans 8:10-11)

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III. HOW DOES THIS PLAY OUT FOR US?

- A. We have the responsibility to exercise the leadership of the Lord within a local gathering of the Lord under a structure of leaders
  - 1. We must be the body ([1 Corinthians 12:12-27](#))
  - 2. Jesus is the head
- B. The healthy body of Christ should reflect a healthy, physical, human body that is in right alignment and balance ([Ephesians 4:11-13](#))
- C. Jesus is returning for a mature body, not a baby
- D. We should want to be part of a body that grows and matures ([Ephesians 4:14-15](#))