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CHRIST AND HIS CHURCH Sentinel, OK

INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture texts: **Gen. 3:15; 12:1-3; 49:10; Gal. 4:4; 3:16,29; Heb. 7:14; Eph. 1:22,23; 1Cor. 3:9; Col. 13,14**.

B. There are many wonderful connections between Christ and His church. Understanding them deepens one's knowledge of both.

I. **CHRIST, THE HEART OF THE BIBLE.**

A. The OT says that Jesus is coming, the Gospels say that He is here, and the rest of the NT says He is coming again.

B. Jesus is in all types of prophecy in the OT:

1. The seed (Gen. 3:15), fulfilled in Gal. 4:4.
2. The seed of Abraham (Gen. 12:2), fulfilled in Gal. 3:16,29.
3. The lion (or scepter) of Judah (Gen. 49:10), fulfilled in Heb. 7:14.

C. See Ephesians 1:4-12 for the story of the OT.

II. **THE CHURCH... CHRIST'S BODY.**

A. Scripture texts: Eph. 1:22,23; Col. 1:18.

B. Paul makes reference to the church as the body of Christ in the Corinthians letter (1Cor. 12:12-31).

C. Also in Eph. 4:11-16.

III. **THE CHURCH... NOT THE BUILDING.**

A. Scripture texts: 1Cor. 3:9; 1Pet. 2:5.

B. We must be able to divorce ourselves from the building we meet in as being holy, or the church itself.

C. We cannot legislate on the use of the building if the Bible doesn't.

IV. **THE CHURCH... A KINGDOM.**

A. Scripture texts: Col. 1:13,14; Ac. 20:28; Rev. 5:9,10.

B. A kingdom needs the following to exist:

1. A king fulfilled in Rev. 17:17.
2. Subjects fulfilled in Col. 1:2,13,14.
3. A territory fulfilled in Jn. 18:36.
4. A law fulfilled in Rom. 8:2.

CONCLUSION.

A. One cannot be a Christian and not a member of the church. They are married in God's eyes (Eph. 5:23-32).

B. The church is the body, building, and kingdom of Christ.