

or yours, should be left out. Make your calling and election sure.

These do not return to be dwellers in the earth realm. They abide in the redeemed, glorified heavenly state, yet they have access to earth nations, to minister to them life, righteousness and uplift toward the celestial state.

John says, an angel came to him, "saying, Come hither, I will show thee the Bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God." Rev. 21:10.

This is in brief the story of the Body of Christ and the Bride. Up to the Consummation, through its marvelous millennial history, is future and yet untold. Oh, my heart, shall I be made to share such bliss? It is glory to be given to write about it, even.

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The Consummation



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The Consummation

Part 1, Historical. Daniel 9:27; Isaiah 63:7.

The prophet Isaiah, rapt in Spirit, sang this exalted and sublime rhapsody, which was to be Israel's response to Jehovah's extensive grace toward them: "I will mention the loving kindness of Jehovah and the praises of Jehovah, according to all that Jehovah hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which He hath bestowed on them according to His mercies, and according to the multitude of His loving-kindnesses." The Gentile nations have also quite as large occasion to celebrate God's praises according to the multitude of lovingkindnesses bestowed on them, in their "times," even until now. They have been exceeding great and numerous.

This great grace manifested toward the Gentiles so continuously, gathers

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round and centers in that boundless and unfathomable love that fills His heart and moved God to give His only-begotten Son for a lost world. Vast and many were the plans devised for man's redemption and restoration, requiring ages for their fulfilment.

God in His nature is most loving and friendly; deeply intimate in His fellowships and unions. For this reason only on the highest planes of relationship could He be at all satisfied. No plans could be agreeable to Him unless it gave to the participants in largest degree, intimacy, privilege, attainment and liberty. Intimacy with his Creator and His works. Privileges of association and attainment in Spiritual knowledge and wisdom concerning this earth, the elements, science and the universe: a liberty of experience, investigation and possession that will satisfy every craving that is lawful and surpasses imagination.

"Known unto God are all His works from the beginning of the world." Away back in the receding past, before creation days, there was a meeting held by Jehovah. We may not know just who was there, but Job 38 tells us at the meeting when the earth was founded, "The morning stars were singing, and the angels chanted for joy." (Moffatt) So they must have been in the previous meeting, or

conference, in which Jehovah announced His "determinate counsel," as His manner, "Calleth those things which be not as though they were." For this was the occasion when Jehovah said, "The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world," who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifested in these last times." Also He showed them names in the Lamb's book of Life, and various other things connected with His great plans. Rev. 13:8; Acts 2:23; 1 Pet. 1:20.

Designs, activities and offices for the uplift and again relating to his Creator, cluster around and radiate from what is called in Scripture, "The Body of Christ," "The Ecclesia," and "The Bride of Christ." The historical story of the vicissitudes of this many-membered body in its various stages, appearances, from beginning to perfect form, could but be intensely interesting and fascinating. We know of nothing ever exhibited which shows so extensive an array of Divine activities and attributes, and various human characteristics.

In the natural steps and relationships of earth-life, the Creator has experimentally shown and illustrated spiritual birth and relationships, as marriage, physical body, etc. He has made so large an effort as is said in Romans 1:8-20.

At the first appearance of "The body of Christ," at the outpouring of the Spirit in New Testament times, it came forth in its best manifestation. It was beautiful, full of Divine power and soul-saving virtue. Its every motion and activity was an operation of Christ its Head: conveyed and controlled by the Holy Spirit. While it so continued, it was an irresistible Divine instrument that swept everything before it.

Enemies arose against this Divine order. Terrible persecutions martyred almost every active minister. This continued many years. The upper-world company was growing almost as fast as the one below. Another enemy also arose. Natural ministry crept in, along with its educated ministry. A gradual change from a Holy Spirit, prophetic ministry to a natural one. That unique and powerful body of Christ went into an eclipse. The power waned. A natural, earth-body displaced that heavenly, spiritual body. The last was a mere automaton compared to the first. A man-controlled, human contrivance. Simply human. The body of Christ has never been restored. Attempts have but partially succeeded. The automaton called church still supercedes.

A question often arises here: Why does Jehovah allow things to go this way?

His answer is, at the present time the dispensation of free moral agency is having added to it a large measure of Divine Intervention. But previously the Lord has seen fit to allow Satan opportunity to show just what he would do and how malignant he is if he has opportunity. Also give to man opportunity to show how weak and helpless and wayward he is if separated from the help of God. Now that these facts are clearly displayed, there is a change in dispensation.

On account of Jehovah's purpose to expose Satan in his true character, and willingness to give man a tryout, there has not been set up in perfection and full working "The Body of Christ," with all its members. God is now working to bring it forth in its beauty, now in this dispensational overlapping period, preparatory to the **Consummation**, which will follow. That we may get a proper view of what is at hand, and what are our privileges, and anticipate an appointed place in this "body" of many members, here is given an extensive photograph gallery of various members, taken largely from the Old Testament, the which we may view through the telescope of Divine illumination, without which we would not discover these pictures.

Part II. The Body of Christ Illustrated by Man's Body

In its nature, character, mode of action, relating of parts to parts, unity of parts in operation, the body of man is a pattern in miniature of the body of Christ, evidently so designed by its Maker, for the purpose of conveying a proper understanding and to the observing of so intricately planned and important innovation, which would change the whole trend of world affairs. It is a fact that the Lord has taken very great pains to get to the mind of man a clear understanding of His purposes.

Just here may be discovered by comparison, the first, most important failure in man's comprehension. There is in the human body an intricate system of fibers with a pipe-like cover, called nerves. Over these transmitters, or conductors, there passes a current, and flows a stream of invisible and physically-intangible essence, or substance, conveying knowledge, understanding and sense of all occurrences in every part of the body, and also from outside; all centering and recorded in brain consciousness. This intelligent activity of the soul arises from the spirit of man. "The body without the spirit is dead." (Jas. 2:28) When his spirit is gone this intelligence ceases.

Similarly in the body of Christ there is an intelligent activity arising from the pervading presence of the Holy Spirit. Without the controlling impulse of the Spirit the body of Christ is dead to God. But we have been deceived by the substitution of an automaton having an appearance, but run by impulse that is not that of the Holy Spirit. This is man's first most important failure. "O Jehovah, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jer. 10:23.

Another part or accompaniment of a human body is an influence, or power, that belongs to moral creatures is an atmosphere of its nature surrounding and going with its presence. This influence, like the smell of a flower, radiates from the person. No other being has so powerful a radiation of this character as does the Lord. So overpowering is it that a creature cannot live where it is too greatly manifested. At Sinai "Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake." The men accompanying Paul when he was struck by a glory flash from the face of Jesus Christ, were speechless. Acts 9:7.

This Divine, personal atmosphere Jesus said should be imparted in measure to His apostles and ministers, calling it "Enduement of power from on high." (Lu. 24:49). However, this invisible, over-

mastering enduement is so delicate, refined and vanishing, it easily and unconsciously slips away. It necessitates a close, humble walk and intimate relationship with the Lord, if it is retained in fulness; and that most are willing or able to attain or retain.

The headship of Jesus Christ is beautifully exemplified in the human body. The consciousness, intelligence and activity arise in the mind. Yet the fact originating the thing occurs in the hand, tongue or other member. The hand or other member appears to be the perfection of intelligence, though having no faculty of intelligence of itself. So in Christ Jesus "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge," "Who giveth to all men liberally." This shows intimate union between Christ the head and members of His body.

Travail is a name given to the exertions and pains of child-birth. Spiritual exercises for bringing forth spiritual conditions have the same name and the same nature of action and feelings. Intercession by the Spirit is also very similar in action to natural intercession, though differing in source and power. Prayer in the Spirit is also similar to natural supplication, only the former is by the power of Holy Spirit.

Various members acting together to

attain a desired result is a fine comparison in natural body and body of Christ. Going somewhere: the will decides whither, eyes see the path, hand for the door knob, arm for the hand, various members of limbs and feet for walking. Consciousness combines the whole. Ear hears the invitation and voice says, coming, and smell catches the fragrance of the flower by the way. All grouped in one purpose. Arriving at a spiritual gathering, two prayers at unison in the Spirit are followed by singing of congregation in Spirit, same theme. Then prophecy, same theme bursts forth. Then following acting prophecy falls on three who still keep the same theme and Spirit. Many members in one grand Spiritual body act.

Many instances might be cited; take these two: Missionaries on a lake in Africa spent a tempestuous night of toil and anxiety. A group of Christians in Ohio spent the same night in prayer, deeply burdened in Spirit for their safety or deliverance. In a time of persecution, as recorded in Acts 4:23-30 is a prayer prayed in one voice, with one accord, by a very large congregation. Probably several hundred were made to say the same prayer in concert, by the Spirit. "Oh Jehovah, how manifold are Thy works."

Part III. Members in Particular.

"For as the body is one, and hath many members of that one body, being many are one body, so also is Christ." (1 Cor. 12:27, 12) Viewed in its various aspects it is given different names. "He and his members are "Christ," and "the body of Christ," "Members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones." "I am the Vine, ye are the branches," as to oneness in substance and essence. "God's husbandry,"—Divine Cultivator. "God's building"—God's builder. "Temple of God"—A place of Divine worship—"Household of God." "A great house." "Ecclesia"—A company of called-out, free men. Eph. 5:30; 2:19, 20; 4:12-16; Jno. 15:5; 1 Cor. 3:9; 6:19.

Now for the inward construction of the body of Christ. As to its foundation: "Built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Chief Corner Stone." These apostles and prophets include the fuller classification: "He gave some apostles, and some prophets; and some evangelists; and some pastors and teachers." All these ministers are prophetic. There are no natural ministers in the body of Christ. "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same." "If any man speak, let him speak as the word of God; if any man

minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth." Where prophecy and God-given ministry are not in operation, the body of Christ is not manifest. "God set the members in the body." They are spiritual and Spirit operated. They are supernatural gifts and cannot be naturally operated by the will of man. The magnetic life-power in the human nerve system power is a type of the power of God in the body of Christ. Human magnetism and no other can traverse and operate human nerves. Likewise only that Divine power of Christ can operate the body of Christ. Beware of an imitating automaton.

"God hath set the members in the body," not in arbitrary pleasure, but in the pleasure of Divine wisdom. Giving "to every man according to his several ability." This ability may be increased by diligence with what has been given, "Unto every one that hath shall be given." Matt. 25:15, 29.

This is a basic, fundamental fact: the body of Christ and the Ecclesia are built on the foundation of apostles and prophets, including Jesus, who always spoke the Word—He was the Word. There is no Body of Christ without the supernatural word of prophecy. This may seem a strong position and rather advanced; but we are going to have to come

to it. Our natural ministries hold back the power of God. Natural teachers are ruining us. The Lord demands that His end-time messages, ministries and works shall abide in His power of prophecy. Less He will not accept. The power of God has to come forth in a new and mighty way, which it cannot through a natural ministry. We are up against the movings of God as we have not hitherto seen. It is tremendous, terrific, searching. "A new creation," suitable to bring forth a ministry of prophecy in all its various phases is about to come forth.

Whatever might have been the fulness of the Divine plans for the "Body" in New Testament times, and however it may have fallen short, we are now facing the Consummation. The end-time design is "A new creation," that is not "circumcised in the flesh," but "circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ."

Standards of privilege long trailed in the dust of human concept are to be raised high to a proper idea and experience of real full salvation.

God made apostles panoplied with Spirit gifts of prophecy, wisdom, knowledge, governmental wisdom, and all essential gifts and powers. Again God will set them in their proper place in the body.

They will work the works of God as of old. Having been commissioned by God, like Samuel, Elijah, Daniel and Jeremiah. "Behold I have put My words in thy mouth." "See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant." Men of this class have many times turned the tide of the race back toward God. Jer. 1:10; 1 Sam. 10:1; 16:13; 1 Ki. 19:16, 17; Dan. 4:9.

Then, too, there will arise a group of "Teachers," endowed with Spirit gifts and powers of prophecy and wisdom who will say with Samuel 12:23; "I will teach you the good and the right way."


Also there is coming a glorious company of intercessor prophets to fill the gap and roll back the tide of evil, and hold the people before the Lord. Jehovah was greatly comforted in the olden times by this class. See 1 Sam. 12:23; Psa. 106:23; Ex. 32:10-14; Jer. 15:1; Ezek. 14:14; Dan. 9:3; Ezek. 22:30, 31; Isa. 59:16.

The foretelling prophets will be a prominent group. To them Jehovah "revealeth His secrets," so that they write out the future programs of events. These will be both of glorious events among the righteous and of judgment and wrath upon the incorrigible. These are not merely gifted but set into their proper

place in the body as prophets.

There will be specially commissioned prophets. David was one of these. He was the minister of "worship," writer of Psalms and musician. He also received the blue print specifications of the construction of the temple in writing. 2 Chron. 28:12, 19. Bezaleel and associates are examples of prophetic mechanical skill. We think we are great inventors. True, but wait till the Lord by the Holy Spirit opens the secrets of nature. Automobiles will be accident proof; locomotives easily and safely run 100 and more miles an hour. Aeroplanes fly without crashing. Nature yield up her chemical secrets for man's enrichment. There is to be something doing by the Great God. Earth's treasures, chemical, mineral, productive, scientific, astronomic, educational, literary, far exceeding present thought. While what the Lord has in store Spiritually will be unfolded. All glory be to God. Ex. 31:1; 1 Cor. 2:9.

Thus far is a vision in brief of the body of Christ, as in the plan of God is beginning its formation in this end-time period.



Part IV. The Sequel.

To see what is the result-the consummation-of all this, we go to Revelation 11 and 12. We should remember this book is a panorama of the most elevated and sublime imagery, which originated in the mind of God, was given to Jesus and "signified," that is made known by signs, to John. It should be approached in most humble, self-distrust, relying upon the Lord alone. These chapters begin with measuring the temple of God and its worshipers, which can be nothing else but the body of Christ which we have been viewing. It has reached a state where it is ready for action.

It comes forth in five groups. The last one is the "remnant," who suffer the dragon's persecutions. The previous one is the Manchild, "who, though spoken of as one, is a group of many, who are to rule the nations. The "Woman" is the travailing Ecclesia. She is said to be a great wonder, or sign, in the heavenly sphere. The Manchild on the way to the throne of God, contacts Satan at his seat. A battle follows and Satan is cast out of the air and down to earth. This is the first company that ever were able to do the like. The woman company escape to a prepared place in the wilderness for safety and schooling. These three groups

are, I believe, parts of the temple worshippers in Rev. 11:1.

Two other groups are the two candlesticks, two olive trees, or two witnesses of chapter 11. Jesus himself told John that candlesticks meant Ecclesias. They do not mean individuals. It is commonly taught that when the whole church is caught up to meet the Lord and become His Bride, the Holy Spirit will be taken away from the earth. This is an infamous, unscriptural lie. But Satan would like it so. He has tried hard to make it so. God never has and never will give Satan possession of this world. Very few in the so-called churches are at all fit to be in the Bride.

Quite the opposite of giving the world over to Satan, these two candlesticks are so anointed, empowered and brought up into the celestial state, Satan cannot harm them. And they have great power to smite the earth with all plagues. They are a terrible annoyance to Satan and his antichrist, for they plague them and their followers with God's judgments. When their work is done they are allowed to be killed but not burned. After three and one-half days life from God resurrects them, a great voice says, "Come up hither." Their enemies see them go up. Thus these parts of the body of Christ vanquish Satan in the

heavenly realm and on earth. So great defeats he never before suffered by man's instrumentality. These are beginnings of his end in the bottomless pit.

As Eliezer, servant of Abraham, went a long journey to Haran to get Isaac a wife, so the Holy Spirit, active God on earth, "did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for His name." This, the obtaining of a bride for the Son, Jesus Christ, is the long-cherished object of the Father. This is the Consummation, or completion of all Divine plans during past ages, and in present times.

This Bride of Christ, the Lamb's Wife, His Consort, His Love Mate, in affectionate union, communion, fellowship, mutual understanding and relationship in activity. In this many-membered body there will be heart members who will intimately share in travail and heart anguish that will be needed to bring the millennium nations back to God and up to His standard of recreation and righteousness and translation life, according to "The everlasting gospel" then to be preached.

Then, too, there will be a variety of prophets of various capacity and office. Proclaimers of the "Everlasting Gospel" now beginning announcement. (Rev. 14: 16). Announcers of coming events, teachers in prophecy and wisdom and knowl-

edge. Teachers of mechanical and invention contrivances and all kinds of natural wit and wisdom. Holy Ghost "Shall teach you all things." He will guide you into all truth. That divorcing and separating of business and labor from service of God did not originate with God. "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." "Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus." Moffatt says, "Maintain honorable occupations." (Titus 3:8). Nations will no more learn war, but will be taught arts, sciences, skill and secrets of nature. Isa. 2:4; Hos. 2:18-23.

Now for a look at the governmental men, of whom there will be many. There will be some trustworthy overcomers who will be given the care of the Lamb's Book of Life and other important books which, being the Lord's, He will have with Him. Then there will be scribes and recorders, many of them, to keep records of events, decisions, prophecies, and many things.

Governors, overseers and kings over cities, tribes and nations will be a large number. Lu. 19:17-19; Rev. 21:24.

It might require a thousand specialists in Spiritual teachings, science, art, music, astronomy, electricity and all the many lines the nations need to be taught. Time would fail to describe all the ministries of this group. What if my name,