

“SKELETON AND FLESH OF  
THE CHURCH” APPLIED

PT. 14

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**CBC, WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024**

**What's the perspective of the Christian described in Colossians 1:7-14? If they live in the way that the prayer is made, where will the energy be expended?**

- Gospel given by individuals living to serve those receiving the gospel
- Work of walking worthy empowered by God
- Love sourced in Spirit seen
- Growth that is continuous
- Three ways of interacting with each part of the trinity

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Now I make known to you, brethren, **the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. 3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5** and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; 8 **and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.**

**1 Corinthians 15:1–8**

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**I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me. 2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as a pure virgin. 3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. 4 For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, you bear this beautifully.**

**2 Corinthians 11:1-4**

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**Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, and sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium and at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me! 12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. 13 But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.      **2 Timothy 3:10–17****

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**Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.**

**2 Timothy 1:13**

**holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.**

**Titus 1:9**

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*New American Standard Bible : 1995 update. 1995. LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.*

**Social gospel's message is that "A God without wrath brought men without sin into a kingdom without judgment through the ministrations of a Christ without a cross." H Richard Niebuhr**

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**3. Find alternate purposes inside God's purposes**

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The **WHY** leads to the **WHAT** which drives the **HOW**

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**IF we do NOTHING else together, the Collective People of God must:**

- I. Worship God Together.** Romans 15:5-6
- II. Grow Individually and Corporately with a Growth that Comes from God.** Eph. 4:15-16
- III. Protect/Defend the Name of God—His character and Eternal Purposes.** II Tim. 1:13-14
- IV. Own the People in the Particular Expression of the Body of Christ where God has Placed you.** I Cor. 12:18, Eph. 4:16
- V. Spread the Glory of God** Hab. 2:14, I Pet. 2:9

*What is needed to head toward these five goals? What common character qualities/values lead to this focus/these goals?*

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**Helpful guidelines for diagnosing the effectiveness of methods seeking to accomplish God’s purposes for His people**

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- 3. Does this method show we are focusing on the **Task Assigned**, not the **Climate Desired**?**

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**Does this method show we are focusing on the Task Assigned, not the Climate Desired? Where does your mind go with this statement?**

- Obedience not results
- Vulnerability, trust, obeying the head
- Achievable, realistic, comfort zone instead of on what is needed to push through to achieve the goal
- Eph. 4:15, speaking the truth in love
- Something beyond our capabilities
- Can't say “that's not my job”
- Talking about changing our desires
- Walk with, so together we complete the task
- What does climate mean? Doesn't the climate come from the gospel
- If love, keep my commandments (God is center)



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**How does the identity of the people of God in Deuteronomy 6-7 affect their mission?**

- Listen/Remember God’s words and works
- Commands that lead to identity are to remind them of God’s words and works
- Good received, came with responsibility
- Spoken to group but followed individually – rewards & consequences came collectively

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## **What climate accompanies that mission?**

- Purpose, peace, confidence lie with God
- Love
- Reminded that they belong to God - be diligent to remember how God brought you out & His commandments
- Big kingdom focus rather than immediate desires/what see
- All comes from God
- Power & peace come from God – can’t live without God & assume prosperity (Matt. 5 – remember who are the blessed ones)
- Weigh on us to hear & remember what God has done & promised
- If not in line with this mission, you “peace out”

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**I am writing these things to you, hoping to come to you before long; 15 but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.**

**1 Timothy 3:14–15**

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**How does defining the church and its ownership affect its mission and therefore the lives of all a part of that church?**

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**So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. 14 Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.**

**Colossians 3:12–16**

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How would Ephesians 2:19-22, 5:8-21, & Colossians 3:12-16 effect the choice of what we **DO** at church, what we **VALUE**, and perhaps even **HOW OFTEN** we do it?

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**What climate was present in the passages we’ve discussed and what impact does this have on the mission?**

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**What will be the result of focusing more on the task assigned than the climate desired when we choose/evaluate methods for church life?**



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**Where would we look to find things fighting against the task assigned and focusing on the climate desired in services and throughout the week with the mission of the church?**

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**Helpful guidelines for diagnosing the effectiveness of methods seeking to accomplish God’s purposes for His people**

- 1. Does this method show we are focusing on God, not us?**
- 2. Does this method show we are focusing on the “We” more than the “Me”?**
- 3. Does this method show we are focusing on the Task Assigned, not the Climate Desired?**
- 4. Does this method lift up not merely the results, but the Holy Spirit as its source of life?**

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**How does the Spirit work/produce the fruit of II Timothy 1:14,  
Rom. 8:13, and Gal. 5:22-25?**

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**How can the Holy Spirit’s accomplishing the work of John 16:5-15 and John 14:23-26 lead to the fruits of the Spirit?**

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**In light of these thoughts, what elements should be fostered in the public worship and life of the church which would lead toward allowing the Spirit to be the source of life, worship, and mission in the church?**