

“So that ye come behind in no gift...”

- I. God's will is that we glorify Him
 - A. In salvation
 - B. In worship
 - C. In the local church through stewardship of the gifts He gives us
- II. Does “the body of Christ” refer to all Christians? No!
 - A. The body of Christ is local and visible
 - B. The body of Christ is the congregation
 - C. The Kingdom of God is universal and invisible
 - D. Does the Kingdom of God refer to all Christians? Yes!
 - E. John 3:3-7 - The Kingdom of God is all those who have been born again
 - F. Luke 17:20-21 - The Kingdom of God cannot be observed and is within someone
 - G. There is no such thing as the invisible church or the universal church
 - H. The only church in the NT is visible and local
 - I. The NT repeatedly equates “church” with “body” (Eph. 1:22, Col. 1:18)
- III. Body Theology (I Corinthians 12:12-27)
 - A. Many members, one head
 - B. Many specific functions in unity
 - C. Organization and organism
- IV. Body Psychology
 - A. The canon of Scripture gives believers all truth
 - B. Psychology means “the study of self”
 - C. The believer in Christ who has the Scripture and who has the Holy Spirit dwelling within him and who is a member of the pillar and ground of the truth may therefore discern his spiritual gift and how to use it in the local church.
- V. I Corinthians 12:4-6
 - A. The diversely membered body of Christ should be united in truth
 - B. “Gifts” - spiritual things which the Lord gives to church members to serve Him
 - C. “Administrations” - opportunities of service
 - D. “Operations” - empowering of the Holy Spirit
 - E. **Your gift + your administration x the Spirit's operation = the Spirit's manifestation**
- VI. Believer's baptism is the entrance into this unity
 - A. I Corinthians 12:13 is believer's baptism, not spirit baptism
 - B. The Lord unites the most diverse group of people together through water immersion