

“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