

# **Ephesians 1:22-23**

Christ and the Church

February 18, 2007

# Ephesians 1:22-23

The Dominion of Christ and the Church (v. 22):

- Hebrews 2:5-8: “Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere [Psalm 8:4-6], ‘What is man that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet.’ Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control.”

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- 1 Corinthians 15:22-28
- Matthew 5:5
- Romans 8:16-17
- 2 Timothy 2:11-13

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The Church as the Body of Christ (v. 23):

- How is the church related to her reigning King?...as body to head!
- This helps us understand our mission (Matthew 28:18-20)
- This helps us understand our calling: to suffer with Christ (2 Corinthians 6:3-10; Philippians 3:8-11; 1 Peter 4:13)

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The Church as the Fullness of Christ (v. 23):

- The Bible is clear that everything we have derives from Christ (John 1:14-18; Ephesians 3:14-19, 4:11-13; Colossians 1:19, 2:9-11)
- However, in some sense the church does complete Christ
- Since the church is God's creation, its fullness is God's fullness
- The Purpose of this fullness is to display the manifold wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:8-12)

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Three Vital Implications:

- We ought to be in awe of the grace of God
- We ought to be in awe of what God has made the church to be
- We ought to have passion for the unity of the church