

Behavior in the Body

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Introduction

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
2. We are to be familiar with the functioning of the human body
3. The body of Christ is much like this human body. 1 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18; Romans 12:4-8
4. God is the designer of both bodies Genesis 1:26; 3:15; Ephesians 1:4-5
5. Points of comparison between the two bodies:
 - a. Closeness
 - b. Cooperation
 - c. Consideration
6. Let us consider in this lesson the behavior of inferiority, behavior of superiority, behavior of equality.

II Discussion

1. The behavior of the inferiority 12:15-17
 - a. The foot, the ear both think that they have a position of inferiority verse 15-16
 - b. Is this the attitude of making excuses Luke 14:18-21; Exodus 3:11,13; 4:1, 10
 - i. When asked to we begin “with one consent to make excuse?”
 - ii. Moses tried to have himself excused from leadership roles
 - iii. Look at the outcome of those who made excuses and Moses
 - c. What excuses do we make?
 - i. My attendance is all that is necessary
 - ii. I only make a small amount therefore I cannot give. Penny doubled every day for a month or a million dollars? Month has 31 days \$5,368,709.12
 - iii. I’m too old
 - iv. I’m too young
 - v. I have little biblical education
 - d. Many at Corinth had these same feelings 12:23-30
 - e. God sets the members and you have your job to do 12:28
2. The behavior of superiority 12:21
 - a. The eye, the head cannot say 12:21
 - b. Seen in Diotrephes 3 John 9-10
 - c. This is also seen in the Pharisees Matthew 23:1-5
 - i. They have their reward verse 5
 - ii. Jesus stated the same in the Sermon on the Mount Matthew 6:2, 4, 5, 16
 - d. What do we do to make ourselves superior
 - i. My way or the highway
 - ii. Bound by your traditions
 - iii. I’ll send you on a guilt trip
 - e. Every member is important 12:12-13, 24, 25, 27, 28-30
3. The behavior of Equality
 - a. There is to be no schisms 12:25 rent, division
 - b. The body is to be tempered together. To mix or blend together 12:24
 - c. God gives to us according to our abilities Matthew 25:15
 - d. If the head said move forward and the feet move backward
 - e. If the hands reach out but the feet move backward
 - f. Division is of the devil unity is the ideal 1:10-13

III Conclusion.

1. You are useful for the work of the Lord, we need you to get the Lord's work done. 3:9
2. When each work together then the results are an increase of the body Ephesians 4:16
3. Are you a member of the body of Christ 12:12
4. Are you a working member of the body of Christ?

Sources: Christ crucified sermon outlines by Tom Holland; Vine's dictionary; Conduct in the church Tom Holland sermon outlines from 1 Timothy; Epistles to Corinth MSOP lectureship 2007; Old sermon given while a student at MSOP author unknown