Ekklesia #5 - WE ARE ONE BODY

EPHESIANS 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

When you were born again, you were born again into the church, the Body of Christ, where He intends you to be an engaged and active member, worshiping Him exclusively, building up your brothers and sisters, and reaching the world with the gospel.

1. WE ARE ONE BODY IN CHRIST

Christian baptism was a one-time rite that functioned to mark the separation of the initiate from his/her pre-Christian past and to signify transition into membership in the new faith community the ekklesia (the church.)

LARRY HURTADO – DESTROYER OF THE GODS

The beauty of God's diversity in creation is most perfectly pictured among His people.

2. WE ARE DEEPLY INTERCONNECTED

COLOSSIANS 2:18-19

Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

3. INDIVIDUALLY, WE DISCOVER VALUE AS WE USE OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO SERVE THE BODY

ROMANS 12:4-11

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.