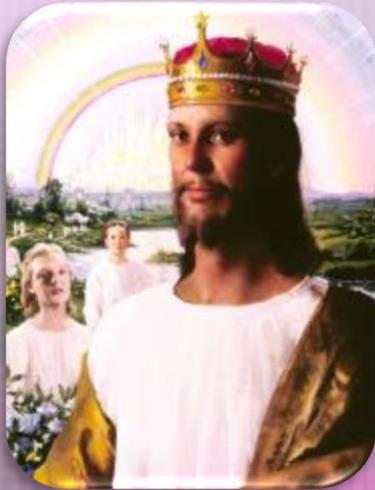


PAUL AND THE REBELLION



Lesson 10 for March 5, 2016

Paul explained the scene of the Great Controversy in his epistles:



- ❑ **The victor**: the second Adam (Romans 5:12-21).
- ❑ **The warriors**: the Church.
 - ❑ The Church as a building (1 Corinthians 6:6-15).
 - ❑ The Church as a body (1 Corinthians 12:14-26).
- ❑ **The equipment**: the armor of God (Ephesians 6:11-17).
- ❑ **The triumph**: the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:12-18, 50-58).

THE SECOND ADAM

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.” (Romans 5:12)



The Controversy on Earth began with Adam’s sin. The second Adam (Jesus) came to redeem us from the first Adam’s mistake. In Romans 5, Paul explained the result of the second Adam’s work:

- ❖ We are justified by faith (v.1).
- ❖ We glory in the hope (v.2).
- ❖ We are not worried about tribulations (v.3-5).
- ❖ Christ died for us when we were still weak sinners (v.6-8).
- ❖ We will be saved at the final judgment (v.9-10).
- ❖ We rejoice in reconciliation (v.11).

THE SECOND ADAM

"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned." (Romans 5:12)



ADAM

- Many died (v.15)
- The judgment came for condemnation (v.16)
- Death reigned (v.17)
- Condemnation came to all men (v.18)
- Many were made sinners (v.19)
- Sin abounded (v.20)



JESUS

- God's grace and the gift abounded (v.15)
- The gift came for justification (v.16)
- Those who receive Him will reign in life (v.17)
- Justification of life came to all men (v.18)
- Many will be made righteous (v.19)
- Grace abounded even more (v.20)

"So that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (Romans 5:21)

THE CHURCH AS A BUILDING

"For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building." (1 Corinthians 3:9)

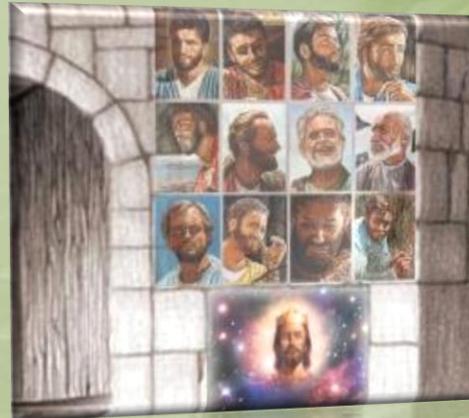
How is the building of Christ's Church build?

It's like farming. Someone sows the seed (preaches the Gospel), other waters it (teaches) and God makes it grow (1Co. 3:6).

Once the foundations are laid (Jesus Christ and the Apostles), each person works to build the Church on it (1Co. 3:10-11).

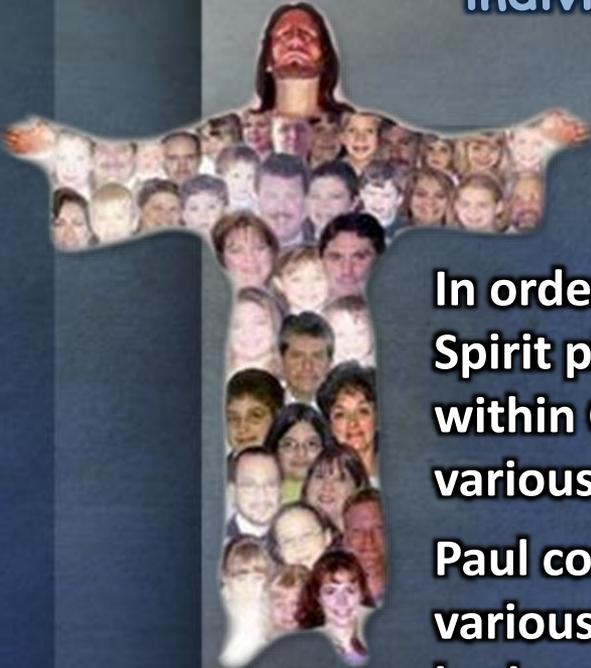
Each one of us will be held accountable before God on how we build (1Co. 3:13-15).

If anyone tries to destroy the Church, God will destroy him (1Co. 3:16-17).



THE CHURCH AS A BODY

"Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually." (1 Corinthians 12:27)



In order to win the Conflict, the Holy Spirit places us in the right place within Church, and prepares us with various gifts (1Co. 12:4-11).

Paul compared the gifts with the function of the various members of our body. There is no human body made of just ears or hands. Functional bodies must have different members with different purposes, and each one must fulfill its role (1Co. 12:12-24).



"that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another." (1 Corinthians 12:25)

E.G.W. (This Day with God, September 10)

“It is by the Lord’s orders that His servants have varied gifts. It is by His appointment that men of varied minds are brought into the church, to be laborers together with Him. We have many different minds to meet, and different gifts are needed. God’s servants are to work in perfect harmony. I thank the Lord that we are not all exactly the same, while we are all to have the same spirit—the spirit that dwelt in Christ.”



THE ARMOR OF GOD

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” (Ephesians 6:11)

Our enemies in the Controversy are powerful: the devil, principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness, spiritual hosts of wickedness (Ephesians 6:12). We need powerful weapons to fight them:



TRUTH



JUSTICE



THE GOSPEL



FAITH



SALVATION



THE WORD

We need to take up THE WHOLE armor.
How can we be sure that we are fully covered by the armor?

THE RESURRECTION

"When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'" (1 Corinthians 15:54 NIV)



There would be no victory if both believers and unbelievers ended up in the grave.

Paul taught that our victory is guaranteed; Christ's resurrection is our security. We will resurrect as Christ did (1Co. 15:20-22).

So our hope is not set in this life but in the eternal life Jesus will give us at His Coming.

Then, everything will be like God originally planned for Adam. Sin and evil will become a little break in the story of this plan; a finished and forgotten controversy.

"And so we will be with the Lord forever."

(1 Thessalonians 4:17)



“The great plan of redemption results in fully bringing back the world into God’s favor. All that was lost by sin is restored. Not only man but the earth is redeemed, to be the eternal abode of the obedient. For six thousand years Satan has struggled to maintain possession of the earth. Now God’s original purpose in its creation is accomplished. ‘The saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.’ Daniel 7:18”