

**The Leaven in the Bread**  
**The Church: Body or Bride**  
**November 1, 2009**

- 1) Matthew 22:14 *"For many are called, but few are chosen."*
  - a. The Greek word for Church is Ekklesia meaning "to call out."
    - i. How is this term applied to the Church during this dispensation?
    - ii. How is this term applied to the Church at the Judgment Seat of Christ?
  
- 2) The Body of Christ
  - a. 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 *<sup>12</sup>For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. <sup>13</sup>For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup>For the body is not one member, but many. <sup>15</sup>If the foot says, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup>And if the ear says, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup>If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup>But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. <sup>19</sup>If they were all one member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup>But now there are many members, but one body. <sup>21</sup>And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." <sup>22</sup>On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; <sup>23</sup>and those members of the body which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor,*

*and our less presentable members become much more presentable, <sup>24</sup>whereas our more presentable members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, <sup>25</sup>so that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup>And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. <sup>27</sup>Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.*

- i. Who is the Body of Christ?
- ii. What does it mean by all the members, though many, are one body?
- iii. Is there one part of the body that is more important than another?
- iv. Do we believe that or do we tend to place greater value on certain members of the body over others?
- v. How do members suffer with other members and how do they rejoice with other members?

### 3) The Bride of Christ

#### a. Adam and Eve

- i. Genesis 2:18, 21-23 *Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took*

*one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.*

*<sup>22</sup>The LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>The man said, "This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."*

1. Who noticed that it was not good for man to be alone and what did He do about it?
2. Where was the woman taken out of?
3. How is this a picture of Christ and His Bride?

b. Isaac and Rebekah

- i. *Genesis 24:2-4 Abraham said to his servant, the oldest of his household, who had charge of all that he owned, "Please place your hand under my thigh, <sup>3</sup>and I will make you swear by the LORD, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I live, <sup>4</sup>but you will go to my country and to my relatives, and take a wife for my son Isaac."*

1. Who are the characters in this story a type of?

2. What were the stipulations the servant had for finding a bride?
3. Genesis 24:15-16 *Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor. <sup>16</sup> The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again.*
  - a. Whose family did the woman belong to?
    - i. What is this a picture of?
  - b. What was the woman doing when the servant found her?
    - i. What is this a picture of?
  - c. Had the woman ever participated in sexual immorality?
    - i. What is this a picture of?

#### 4) Conclusion of Series

- a. Over the past few weeks have you seen any leaven that has gotten in and corrupted your life?

- b. What steps are you individually making to not allow leaven in your life?
- c. Why is it important to understand the justice of God?
- d. Why is it important for us to realize we have a cross to take up daily?
- e. Why is it important for us to confess and repent when we live according to our fleshly nature?
- f. What is our hope?
- g. Do the words “Well done, my good and faithful servant” mean anything different to you now?