

“Head of the Church”
Colossians 1:15-20, Pt. 3

I. What Christ being the Head Means for the Church

A. Christ (alone) has authority over the Church.

Ephesians 5:23–24 - ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

B. Christ is “organically” connected to the Church, His body.

1. He personally identifies with His Church.

Acts 9:4 - And falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”

2. He provides His Church with spiritual vitality.

Colossians 2:18–19 - ¹⁸ Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

3. He will bring His Church to full maturity.

Ephesians 4:15–16 - ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:11–13 - ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...

4. Christ is *all* the Church ever needs.

II. What Christ being the Head Means for Individual Believers

1 Corinthians 12:27 - Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

A. Christ is our personal authority.

B. We are each “organically” connected to Christ.

1. He identifies with us individually.

Matthew 25:40 - ...Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.

- a. Being members of Jesus also means we are connected to one another.

Rom. 12:5 - so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

- b. We should be identifying with other believers.

Hebrews 13:3 - Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.

2. Jesus is the source of our individual spiritual vitality.
3. He will bring each of us to full perfection.
4. Christ is *all* we ever need.