

The ONE TRUE CHURCH of GOD, part 9 quotes

- 1** - “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou has sent me.” John 17:20-21.

These verses reveal a vitally important reason why Christ prayed this particular prayer, and this was so that His followers may all become one with each other. The Greek word for “one” used in these verses is “heis”, and it translates and means “one abundantly, one another, only” (Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, word #1520). This means that all God’s followers and members of His church are to become one of another and only as one in number.

- 2** If your church has 20 different members, how can all 20 become as one another and make up only one in number?

“For as **we have many members in one body**, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.” Romans 12:4-5.

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and **all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ**. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now **are they many members, yet but one body**. And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: And those members of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely parts have more abundant comeliness. For our comely parts have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked: That there should be no schism in the body; but that **the members should have the same care one for another**. And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it. **Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.**” 1 Corinthians 12:12-27.

These verses reveal that these 20 different individuals together make up just one body in Christ Jesus. They are no longer 20 different bodies, but 20 different parts of just one body, and members of each other. Each member is necessary for this one body to properly function in all aspects, and thus no one member becomes of more importance in this body than another member would be. As one member rejoices or suffers, then all members empathize the same, showing that each member should have a close connection and care for each other member in this one body.

3 Just how close is this connection between all 20 members of this one body of Christ?

- **“as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee”**.

This inspired passage reveals that all 20 members are to be as close to one another as God and Jesus Christ are close with each other.

Just how close was this connection between the Father and Jesus?

“I and my Father are one....I do...the works of my Father...believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that **the Father is in me, and I in him.”** John 10:30, 37-38.

These verses reveal that this close connection between the Father and Jesus made them one in each other, and this oneness was proved by the works that Jesus manifested openly in all His words and actions.

4 How closely did Jesus manifest this oneness and union with God His Father?

“Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? **he that hath seen me hath seen the Father**; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? Believeest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? **the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works**. Believe me that **I am in the Father, and the Father in me**: or else believe me for the very works' sake.” John 14:8-11.

These verses show that this closeness of oneness between Jesus and God the Father was so complete that only God was revealed in every word and action of Christ. This meant that the person of Christ Himself was hid in God and was not seen, and thus it was only the Father who was able to live and be seen through Christ!

“All things are delivered to me of my Father: and **no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father**; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom **the Son will reveal him**.” Luke 10:22.

This verse reveals that Jesus was so fully united with God that Christ Himself was hid and only God was revealed. This meant that Christ's own personality, His own individual characteristics and desires were denied and fully crucified so that none of these traits could be revealed at all, but only God could be revealed!

“Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **The Son can do nothing of himself**, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise....**I can of mine own self do nothing**: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because **I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me**.” John 5:19, 30.

This inspired passage shows that Christ was so fully emptied of self and so fully united with God His Father, that God was able to live in Christ and thus only the Father was revealed through Christ.

5 What does this oneness between the Father and the Son mean for these 20 members of Christ's body?

“For it pleased the Father that in him (Jesus Christ) should all fulness dwell; And, **having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself**; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard...**for his body's sake, which is the church**...Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is **the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory**: Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.” Colossians 1:19-24, 26-29.

These amazing verses reveal that Jesus was so fully emptied of self that He could obtain this oneness with God and then God could live and work through Him, and then Christ died on the cross to enable sinful humanity to experience this same close oneness with Him. This means that Christ's death has reconciled or enabled these 20 individuals to become members of His body - to become one with Him so that He can live and work through them. But this close oneness with Christ is only possible if they fully empty and crucify self as did Christ, and then continue in the faith of the gospel for His body's sake, or for the sake of the other 19 members of Christ's body they are in!

6 What will happen when this blessed oneness and unity occurs between all 20 with each other and each with Christ?

- **“they also may be one in us”**.

If all 20 become one in unity with each other, and each becomes one with Christ, then since the Father and Christ are one in unity, then all 20 through Christ become one with God the Father as well. This would then allow the Father and Christ to live and move and work through them as each strives according to God and Christ's working in them mightily!

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But **made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant**, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, **he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.**” Philippians 2:5-13.

Christ humbled Himself in order to become one with God, and crucified self to such an extent that He was hid in God and only God was revealed in and through Him to others. If each of these 20 members would also follow Christ’s example and humble themselves in order to become one with Christ and with one another, crucifying self to such an extent that each are hid in Christ in God, then only Christ and God will be revealed in and through all 20 to others.

“For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.” Colossians 3:3.

7 Once this oneness with all 20 in Christ in God is achieved, then what will occur?

- **“that the world may believe that thou has sent me.”**

The world does not believe the Gospel when just one individual becomes one with Christ in God, but when all 20 members become one with each other in Christ in God! It is this oneness and union with each of these 20 members among themselves in Christ in God that convinces the world that God really has sent Jesus to save sinners such as themselves! Without this oneness of these 20 members among themselves - making up just one body in Christ in God and not 20 independent bodies, then the world will not believe the Gospel!

Without this oneness and unity among God’s people, the world will not believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ; which means that the Gospel harvest cannot yet occur in all the world; the 144,000 cannot yet be made up; probation cannot yet close and the end occur; Christ cannot come; the righteous dead cannot be raised; salvation cannot be granted and eternity cannot begin! This world just continues to grow more wicked and evil, and all because God’s followers are not yet united among themselves in Christ in God!