

## ALL THINGS IN CHRIST

In all wisdom and prudence making known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Him the plan for the fullness of the times

**TO HEAD UP THE ALL THINGS IN THE CHRIST,  
the things in the heavens and the things upon the earth, in Him....**

(Ephesians 1:8b-10)

By – Stuart H. Pouliot

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### ***Head Up All Things in the Christ***

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God's purpose of the eons [ages] is to lead all mankind and all creation into His all so that He may be all in all (1 Corinthians 15:28).

In the fullness of times, also called ***the consummation of the eons***, all things in heaven and on earth will be fully subjected to Christ, and He will deliver up the Kingdom to the God and Father, so that God may be all in all. In that day, all things will be new in fulfillment of God's purpose: **Behold, I am making all new** (Revelation 21:5)!

Glory to God! This is the good news of the Kingdom of God.

God has established a plan to achieve this purpose and all the details of His plan are working toward this end, which is actually a new beginning. The purpose is the goal, and the plan is a multi-faceted, and often complex, scheme (actions, arrangements) to accomplish this purpose.

To achieve His purpose, God has put into motion an almost unbelievable project that transcends the mind of man. The best script writer in Hollywood or the most gifted novelist never could have written such a plan. Who could even fully sum up His plan? After all, His plan involves a multitude of nations and billions of lives, each with their own history with God, not to speak of all in the heavens that we know so little about.

#### **Headship of Christ**

At the center of God's plan is His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, whose mission is to head up all things in Himself, things in the heavens and on the earth.

**(8) In all wisdom and prudence (9) making known to us the secret of His will (in accord with His delight, which He purposed in Him) (10) to have an administration of the complement of the eras, to head up all in the Christ—both that in the heavens and that on the earth....**  
(Ephesians 1:8b-10 CV)

Other translations express the phrase *to head up all in the Christ* as *to gather together in one all things in Christ* (KJV), *to sum up all things in Christ* (ASV), or *to bring into one the whole in the Christ* (YLT).

In the Greek, the expressions *head up*, *gather up*, or *sum up* are translated from the word

*anakephalaion*, which is comprised of two primary words with the first meaning "up" and the second meaning "to strike on the head." For comparison, the Greek word often used to describe Christ as the Head of the Body is *kephale*, which has a primary meaning of "seizing" with "the head being the most readily taken hold of." Thus, *to head up* seems to be the closest in meaning to the Greek.

The secret revealed through Paul has to do with the Headship of Christ and not simply a gathering together. A gathering together or a summing up of all does not tell us much about the purpose for such a thing. However, heading up all things in Christ tells us volumes, for it reveals that everything in the heavens and on the earth will be brought under the Headship of Christ.

The Son of God is the Head or the authority over all things, and He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet, and then He will abolish all rule and authority and power. Heading up all things means to bring all in subjection to His rule and authority and power, so that, at the consummation of the eons, all things in the heavens and on the earth will be put in subjection to the Kingdom of God.

**(23) But each in his own order [troop]: Christ the firstfruits [anointed firstfruits], then at his coming those who belong to Christ. (24) Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. (25) For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. (26) The last enemy to be destroyed is death. (27) For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. (28) When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all. (1 Corinthians 15:23-28 ESV)**

*All* is a comprehensive and inclusive word. Absolutely everything in God's creation will ultimately be brought under the Headship of Christ and be subjected to His rule. Christ will progressively lead *all* of mankind into the Kingdom of God, each according to his own troop (order), in what could be called a mighty harvest. Just as barley, wheat, and grapes are each harvested in different seasons, so too will all the troops of mankind be harvested.

Of the many things taught throughout the Christian world, it seems that very few ministers of the word stress the totality of God's purpose that *all things* will be headed up in and subjected to Christ, things in the heavens and on the earth, so that God the Father may be all in all new. The first part might be stressed but the second part is not. Even amongst those who might periodically expound on this, most seem to stop short of the glory of what it truly means. They have Christ heading up all things *to* or *in* the church, but they stop at this point, as if it is only about Christ and the church. They might include creation in this heading up, but they generally leave out all of mankind that die in unbelief in our present wicked age, as if they will never be headed up in Christ. They are left to toast in hell.

Further, some people state that the ultimate purpose of God is the summing up or heading up of all things in the Son, that is, Christ. Over the years, I have heard others state that the purpose is simply Christ and His church (i.e., bride). But, is this truly God's ultimate purpose?

Before answering, let me be clear that the Son of God is central, supreme, and preeminent in all things in all of God's creation. After all, the Son is the Creator and the First and the Last of all things. I like the way the *American Standard Version* words Colossians 1, especially in verse 18.

**(15) Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; (16) for in him were all things created, in the heavens and upon the earth, things visible and things invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things have been created through him, and unto him; (17) and he is before all things, and in him all things consist. (18) And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; *that in all things he might have the preeminence.*** (Colossians 1:15-18 ASV)

In these four verses, Paul uses the expression *all things* five times in lifting up the preeminence of the Son of God's love. And, Paul defines *all things* for us to be sure we do not miss the vastness of its meaning, which includes everything seen and unseen, everything dead and living, and everything from before the beginning, at the beginning, and onward with no end in sight. Simply, all things consist in Him then, now, and forevermore.

Now, it might seem like I am parsing words, but it seems to me that many confuse God's plan executed through and by His Son with His ultimate purpose, which is summed up in the little word ALL.

First, as the Creator, the Son of God cannot be the ultimate purpose of God nor can Christ and the church. When the Wright brothers built the first aircraft, they were not the purpose. Their purpose was to fly in the air, and to do this, they needed a flying machine, so they built one.

Second, the *process* of heading up in itself is not the ultimate purpose; it is the plan to achieve the purpose.

So, this leads to the question: What is the ultimate purpose of God? ALL! Paul states it very clearly: ***So that God may be all in all.*** However, to this we need to add the Lord's declaration: ***Behold, I make all things new!***

Why must Christ head up all things? So that all things are made new! The all things of God's creation are destined for something new, and the Son must bring them altogether under His Headship in order for God's ultimate purpose to be achieved. One translation states that God will re-create all things. Paul captures the same thought: ***For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things*** (Romans 11:36). Think about it!

This might seem to be a bit of a diversion, but there are three reasons for injecting God's ultimate purpose into this article. First, my heart longs to see this lost truth recovered amongst God's people. Second, it is time for God's people to shift from the church's self-centeredness, as if all things are about the church exclusively, to God's *all*-centeredness. It is time to feel the very heartbeat of God's love for all mankind and all creation. Third, God's plan to achieve His ultimate purpose requires a special vessel intimately joined and working together for the ages to come, which is the topic of the remainder of this article.

So, the questions are: How will Christ head up and subject all things to Himself? Will He do it by fiat, all at once? Will He do it by Himself? In his epistle titled *Ephesians*, Paul provides at least six keys to open the door of our understanding regarding these questions.

### Head and Body

The first key is found in the mystery of His will regarding the *ecclesia*, which is His Body.

**(9) Making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ (10) as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite [sum up; head up] all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ... (22) And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church [ecclesia], (23) which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.** (Ephesians 1:9-10, 22-23 ESV)

Given the many uses and (mis)understandings of the word *church*, I often use the Greek Anglicized word *ecclesia* to emphasize the true ecclesia in the heart of the Lord. I generally use the word *church* when referring to its common usage in our day.

In the Greek, *ekklesia* is made up of *ek*, which means "out of," and *klesis*, which means "a calling." Thus, the *ekklesia* means "out-called" or "a calling out of."

The foundation of God's plan is Christ as the Head over all, meaning nothing is left out. Simply, His Headship encompasses everything. God subjects all under the feet of Christ, making Him the universal Head over all, who fills the entire universe. The purpose of subjecting all things under His feet, especially His enemies, is to make peace with all, to make even His enemies His friends.

But the glorious part of the mystery is that, in the capacity of Head over all things, Christ has been given the ecclesia, which is His Body. The mystery of God's will is that the heading up of all things will be accomplished through Christ and His Body, which is the ecclesia.

Simply, Christ the Head and His Body are the means through which God will bring all in the heavens and on earth into His Kingdom of all new, which makes Christ and His Body the essential centerpiece of God's plan.

Some interpretations of verses 22-23 place the emphasis of Christ's Headship on the church, making it appear that Christ was simply made head over all the church or that He was made head for the good of the church, meaning His Headship is entirely centered on the church.

No doubt, Christ is the Head of the ecclesia, but don't think of this as the endpoint. Otherwise, you will miss the mark of the universality of Christ's Headship and actually diminish the on-high, celestial calling of the ecclesia, which is His Body. The ecclesia has been raised up and seated with the Head of the universe, which places the ecclesia over all the universe with Christ; and in this capacity of Head and Body, Christ will head up all things in heaven and on earth.

**(4) But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—(6) and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (7) so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.** (Ephesians 2:4-7 ESV)

Do not miss the glory of the secret revealed to Paul that had been hidden from the generations and the ages [eons]. God has chosen a called-out people to be given to the One who is the Head over the universe. They have been joined with the One who is now seated at the right hand of God the Father among the celestials or heavenly places. As far as we can discern, no one in all of God's creation has been given such a high and glorious privilege as that given to the ecclesia, which is Christ's Body.

And, where is Christ today?

**(20) He worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, (21) far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.** (Ephesians 1:20-21 ESV)

Christ has not come down to be the Head of the ecclesia. He has raised up His Body to be among the celestials, joined with Him as Head over all and far above all. He is above every name that is named in this age and in the one to come and so is His Body, for where the Head is so is the Body. The two are inseparable.

Now, consider this: **He put all things under his feet and gave him as Head over all things to the ecclesia, which is His Body.** Christ is the Head and the ecclesia is His Body. How does God intend to put all things under His feet? The answer came to me as a revelation as I was writing this article. The key is discovered in how a human body works, a body that God created.

In a human body, what lies between the head and the feet? Or, asked another way: What is closer to the feet, the head or the body? The answer to both questions is the body. Now, how does the head send a signal to the feet to move or, in this case, "to subject things under it"? It sends a signal through the body through the legs to the feet. In other words, the body is critical to get the signal to the feet. The head cannot simply yell to the feet "to subject all things"; it must go through the proper channels, so to speak.

The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to liken the ecclesia to a body with Christ as the Head for good reason, and that is, Christ the Head works through His Body to subject all things under His feet.

This occurs in part in our present age. However, in the ages to come, this will be fully manifested as Christ the Head directs His Body in the subjecting of all things.

But, there is a part two to this revelation. What is the result of the subjecting of all things under the feet? Or, what is the goal? For sure, it is not to crush or to destroy people. Isaiah, Paul, and Jesus give us a hint to the answer: **And having shod the feet with the preparation of the**

**"gospel of peace"** (Isaiah 52:7; Ephesians 6:15). **Blessed are the peacemakers! For they shall be called sons of God** (Matthew 5:9).

According to Paul, the feet are part of the Body, and they are to be shod with the good news of peace. In the human body, the feet are vital for the movement of the body. However, in reference to the subjecting of all things under the feet, the feet of the Body serve another purpose and that is to bring peace to the ones being brought into subjection.

The sons of God of the oncoming ages are the peacemakers, and they will be charged with putting all things under the feet of Christ, which means bringing peace to and making peace with all things in heaven and on earth. They will be the ambassadors of God's peace treaty with the world (2 Corinthians 5:18-20).

In this age, there is limited success in this endeavor, but it will kick into high gear in the oncoming ages when the immortal sons of God are manifested to the world. They will truly bring the good news of the Kingdom of God to the nations, the good news of the peace and righteousness of God in His Son.

Dear brethren, does this excite your heart? Does it cause you to want to be a peacemaker in this life? Let us be peacemakers, not warmongers.

### ***The Christ***

The second key is the expression *the Christ*.

**To head up all in the Christ—both that in the heavens and that on the earth....** (Ephesians 1:10 CV)

The more literal renderings of this verse place the article *the* before the word *Christ*. This might be passed off as being of little significance; however, it again explains how God intends to head up all things. Consider another verse from Paul.

**For, even as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of the one body, being many, are one body, so also is *the Christ*....** (1 Corinthians 12:12 YLT)

Paul defines *the Christ* as one body. A body without a head cannot survive, any more than a head without a body can survive. Both Christ, as the Head, and the ecclesia, as His Body, are one body called *the Christ*.

Consider this paraphrase of Paul's revealed secret: **In all of His wisdom, God has made known the secret of His will, which He has purposed in His Son, that at the consummation of the eons, all in the heavens and on the earth will be headed up in both the Son and His Body, which together is *the Christ*.**

Thus, as seen already, God intends to head up all things through the Head and the Body, which together is *the Christ*.

## The Fullness

The third key is the expression *the fullness of Him*.

**The church, which is His body, the fullness [pleroma] of Him who fills [pleroo] all in all.** (Ephesians 1:22-23 NASB)

The Greek word translated as *fullness* is *pleroma*, which means "repletion or completion." *Repletion* means "to be full or too full"; *replete* means "to be well filled; plentifully supplied; stuffed as with food; gorged." The word *complete* (completion) means "lacking none of the parts; full, whole, entire," "ended; finished; concluded," or "thorough, perfect." *Pleroma* comes from the verb *pleroo*, which means "to make replete, that is, (literally) to cram." Clearly, *pleroma* is as comprehensive in its meaning as is *ta panta* or *the all*. Nothing is lacking in either word or expression.

The fullness of Him signifies that the Body is filled completely, not partially filled but completely filled with Christ. The picture given is of something that is not merely full or barely full but crammed full, as if no more can be put into it. This is the picture Paul paints of the ecclesia. **The Body of Christ is stuffed full of Christ and lacks nothing of Christ.**

If we could see the Body as God sees the Body, we would see Christ in all His glory. The very essence of Christ is found in His Body, which is being made into a new creation in which Christ is all, and in all. He is all to His Body, and He is in all of His Body.

**Here [in the new creation, new self] there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.** (Colossians 3:11 ESV)

Paul was not merely using some sort of symbolic language. Just as Eve was taken from the body of Adam and was bone of his bones and flesh of His flesh, so is the ecclesia. Eve contained Adam's DNA, and, in like fashion, the Body of Christ contains Christ's spiritual DNA, which makes this new creation in Christ unique in all of God's creation. We could say that the Body of Christ is made from the same stock as the Son of God. Individual members of the Body have the seed of God (1 John 3:9) abiding within them that is growing and maturing until the day of resurrection and transfiguration when this treasure in each earthen vessel will burst forth to become a glorified, spiritual, celestial, immortal body in the image of the Son of God.

Paul saw beyond the individual to the whole body together manifested as the fullness of Christ. It will take the entire Body of glorified believers to manifest His exact image and likeness.

Paul used the same imagery in reference to the relationship of the Father to the Son.

**For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness [pleroma] to dwell in Him....** (Colossians 1:19 NASB)

**For in Him all the fullness [pleroma] of Deity dwells in bodily form....** (Colossians 2:9 NASB)

Just as the Son is the fullness of the Father, so is the Body of Christ the fullness of the Son of God. Although it is difficult to see this in our day, just as the Son is the visible image of the invisible God, so is the Body of Christ the visible image of the invisible Christ, at least in our present age. The good news is that a day is coming soon in which the world will see the Head, the glorified Christ, and the Body, the glorified sons of God in the image of the Son.

Some translations pick up this theme of being in the image of Christ through the use of the words *complement*, *complete*, and *completion*, which leads to the next key.

### The Complement

The fourth key is the expression *the complement*.

**(22) [God] subjects all under His feet, and gives Him, as Head over all, to the ecclesia (23) which is His body, the complement [pleroma; filling up, completion] of the One completing [pleroo] the all in all [filled by him who fills the entire universe].** (Ephesians 1:22-23 CV [JMT])

**The church is Christ's body and completes [pleroma] him as he fills [pleroo] everything in every way.** (Ephesians 1:22-23 GW)

**The church is Christ's body, the completion [pleroma] of him who himself completes [pleroo] all things everywhere.** (Ephesians 1:22-23 GNB)

The word *complement* means "fulfillment." The word *fulfill* means "to carry out (something promised, desired, expected, predicted); cause to be or happen," "to fill the requirements of; satisfy a condition; answer a purpose," "to bring to an end; complete."

The previous keys speak to what Christ is to His Body, but the words *complement*, *completes*, and *completion* speak to what the Body is to Christ, meaning that there is a two-way relationship and dependence between the Head and the Body.

**The ecclesia is Christ's body and completes Him as he fills everything in every way.**

Not only is the Body of Christ full of Christ and is His fullness, His Body also completes Him. Christ is more than some remote titular head or authority of His Body. Just as in the human body, a head by itself is not complete and cannot function by itself nor can a body by itself. The two, a head and a body, cannot exist without the other.

But, it is more than a matter of existence. God has ordained that the Body completes the Head. Simply, the two are to be inseparable in heart and in function with both completing the other. Stated another way, Christ the Head is intimately wed to His Body, and this is essential to the completion of His mission to head up and to subject all things to Himself and become all in all so that at the consummation of the eons the Father may be all in all.

Just as the first Adam needed a co-heir to join him in having dominion over the earth, so must the last Adam have a co-heir to have dominion, not only over all the earth but over all creation



in heaven and on earth. Adam was not complete without Eve, and **Christ is not complete without His Body**. The ecclesia is intimately joined with Christ, the Head, and without this joining together, Christ will not be complete and God's purpose will not be accomplished. **The Son of God needs His Body in order to head up all things in heaven and on earth.**

Another way to look at it is that the Body is to bring fulfillment to Christ. The Son needs His Body in order for Him to be complete so that He can fully execute the plan of God. Yet, another way to state it is that Christ needs His Body to bring an end to God's plan.

Paul added to this glorious truth in his epistle to the Colossians.

**And He is the Head of the body, the ecclesia, Who is Sovereign, Firstborn from among the dead, that in all He may be becoming first, for in Him the entire complement [fullness] delights to dwell.** (Colossians 1:18-19 CV)

This is amazingly good news for all who have been called out to Christ. The Body, which is the ecclesia, has been joined with the One who is not only their Head but also the Sovereign of the universe. As His Complement, His like, His Body will participate with Him in His capacity as the Sovereign. The entire complement or fullness of God dwells in Him, and this same fullness will dwell in His Body.

Thus, He must have a body that is His Complement if He is to fill all in all or to complete the all in all. He will start with His Body as His life is "stuffed" into His Body until it is all of His life, and then, in concert with His Body in the next age, He will begin to subject all things to Himself and fill all creation with His life until His life is "stuffed" into all creation, everywhere.

Those who are members of the Body of Christ are joined to the Sovereign of the universe, the One who is over all, in all, before all, and who holds all together. Not only this, but they are joined with the One who is beyond death, **the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality** (1 Timothy 6:15-16). He has conquered death, the very enemy of mankind. He is the Firstborn of the dead; and because of His glorious victory, His Body will rise up from among the dead, conquering death in His life, for He is the Resurrection and the Life. Glory to God!

### **Manifold Wisdom and the Oncoming Ages**

The fifth key is the manifold or multifarious wisdom of God manifested in the oncoming ages.

Some might protest that God's purpose is all about Christ's love for His Body and Him having a glorious bride without spot or wrinkle; it is all about "Christ and the Church." No doubt, central in God's plan is a love story between the Son of God and His Bride, but does the whole love story end with the Lambkin and a wife? What is the purpose of a husband and a wife? What was the mandate given to Adam and Eve? It was to have dominion, that is, to rule, and to be fruitful, that is, to beget and birth offspring in their image.

Paul tells us that through the ecclesia God intends to make known to all among the celestials (heavenly places) the manifold wisdom of God in the ages to come.

**(8) To me—the less than the least of all the saints—was given this grace, among the nations to proclaim good news—the untraceable riches of the Christ, (9) and to cause all to see what is the fellowship of the secret that hath been hid from the ages in God, who the all things did create by Jesus Christ, (10) that there might be made known now to the principalities and the authorities in the heavenly places [celestials], through the assembly [ecclesia], the manifold [multifarious] wisdom of God, (11) according to a purpose of the ages [eons], which He made in Christ Jesus our Lord....** (Ephesians 3:8-11 YLT [CV])

The manifold or multifarious wisdom of God is to be made known through the ecclesia to the rulers and the authorities among the celestials. Paul places this knowing in the "now," but he seems to shift the weight of the knowing to the ages, in what he calls a purpose of the ages. I believe that the ages Paul had in view are the oncoming eons (ages).

**(6) [God] rouses [raises] us together [the ecclesia, the body of Christ] and seats us together among the celestials [in the heavenly places], in Christ Jesus, (7) that, in the oncoming eons [ages], He should be displaying the transcendent [surpassing] riches of His grace in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.** (Ephesians 2:6-7 CV)

According to Paul, God is going to display His surpassing riches of His grace through the ecclesia in the eons to come. Again, Paul was looking forward to what lies ahead of our present wicked eon (Galatians 1:4; Philippians 3:13). Another way to state this is that there is a purpose to the oncoming eons. But, what is it? What did Paul see in the ages to come?

I believe he saw the offspring of every family in heaven and on earth (Ephesians 3:14). A husband and a wife bring forth offspring out of their love for one another. This is the same picture we should get with Christ and His ecclesia, as His Wife. Together, they are to bring forth offspring. The mystery is great (Ephesians 5:22-32).

Part of the mystery is that all of mankind outside the ecclesia is destined to be birthed into the Kingdom of God through the Lambkin and His Bride, metaphorically speaking. His Complement is destined to bring *the all* of mankind, that is, many sons and daughters, into the all of God through the very life of the Son of God. This will be brought about through the judgments of God administered through the saints (1 Corinthians 6:2, 3; Isaiah 26:9).

### **Nations as Your Inheritance**

The sixth key is the inheritance of the nations and the earth as promised by the Father to His Son.

**'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance, and the very ends of the earth as Your possession.** (Psalm 2:8 NASB)

However, in light of the truth of His Fullness and His Complement, the Son as King will not inherit the nations and possess the earth alone.

**(16) The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God, (17) and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.** (Romans 8:16-17 NASB)

The ones who suffer in this age are the conquerors, fellow heirs with Christ, who will reign with Him in the next age and beyond, seated upon His throne as He subjects all things to Himself.

**The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.** (Revelation 3:21 ESV)

To all the nations, God gave what is called the **Abrahamic Covenant**, which speaks of all the nations of the earth being blessed in Abraham (Genesis 18:18; Galatians 3:8). We who believe with the same faith as Abraham are called to be heirs with the father of many nations.

**And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.** (Galatians 3:29 NASB)

But take note that, according to Paul, the nations are to be fellow heirs with Christ.

**(4) In regard to which ye are able, reading it, to understand my knowledge in the secret of the Christ, (5) which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it was now revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit—(6) that the nations be fellow-heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of His promise in the Christ, through the good news....** (Ephesians 3:4-6 YLT)

All the nations are destined to be blessed, but how will this blessing come about? It will start with the anointed first fruits, the conquerors that will sit upon His throne as fellow-heirs of all the nations and all the earth. They will be the first to come into the restored dominion mandate that was lost by Adam over 6,000 years ago. They will lead all the nations into the righteousness of God until all are subjected under the feet of *the* Christ.

### **No Greater Mission**

Can you imagine the calling that is opened up to us believers by these six keys? Is there any calling greater than this? It is tremendous! Those counted worthy to reign with Christ in the next age are destined to be the first of *the* Christ, the first of the Complement of the One who has been charged with completing God's plan as purposed in the eons to come. He will subject all things in the heavens and on the earth through His Complement, the Body.

*The* Christ has work to be done in the oncoming eons. It is not a call to retirement or to heaven or to live in heavenly mansions or to walk on streets of gold, as so often pictured; rather, it is a call into a glorious vocation with the Head of the universe. We have been called according to God's purpose, and this means we have a mighty work to do in the ages to come.

This is good news for those who know, trust, obey, and love the Lord Jesus; He is not going to bring about God's purpose alone. God's plan is that His Son will have a Complement or, another

way to state it, co-heirs or fellow heirs with Him to bring about His purpose for the oncoming eons until all creation reaches the consummation of the eons. This is the revelation of the secret of God that was given to Paul the apostle.

Our beloved Lord is on a mission for His Father, and He has called and chosen a faithful company of saints to be His Complement to complete God's plan, which encompasses not only the earthly realm but also the celestial realm. In the ages to come, His Complement will not be restricted to this earth, for *the* Christ will reign in both the celestial and the earthly realms or, if you will, in all creation, both seen and unseen.

There is no higher calling, no greater honor than to be the Complement of Christ and to be included in the great work He is doing and will continue to do in the oncoming eons until all is headed up in *the* Christ. There is only one true Head in all creation, and there will be only one true body, *the* Christ, in which all will be headed up.

So, let us not lose sight of the fact that our Lord is on a mission to head up all things in the heavens and on the earth; He will absolutely accomplish this mission to the glory of God, and He is calling a company of conquerors as His body and feet to join Him in His mission.

The mystery was hidden in the ages past, but it has been revealed to us through Paul. However, it seems as if the mystery that Paul speaks of has been lost in our day as it has been drowned out with so many messages, emphases, and traditions of men.

Many are searching for the purpose of God in their lives while they occupy bodies of death, but what about God's purpose for the ages [eons]? Who is searching for their purpose in light of God's ultimate purpose that will be attained at the consummation of the ages? Who sees that our individual purpose is intimately linked to God's ultimate purpose?

Whatever we are called to do in this life is not an end unto itself. If it is of God, then it must relate to His purpose and that purpose is summed up in the word **ALL**.

Dear beloved in Christ, if you believe and trust in Jesus and are obeying Him, clinging to Him, loving Him, and conquering through His life, this is your destiny in the next age when He comes to reign over this earth through His conquering Body, the ones who **overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loves us** (Romans 8:37). Hallelujah!

Let us rejoice in God's plan!

May the Spirit of God give you revelation of this great truth!