

4/17/73

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Divine Relations

of the Body that Jesus Christ is the Head of the church. He is its Head as is stressed in many places and we should therefore strive to make sure that we are truly under His direction in all things. We are not under His direction because He is telling us You go this way, you go that, you do this, you do the other thing. Now He does do that at times I believe in this age. I think there are instances when He does, but I think they are comparatively rare because I think in most instances He wants us to learn to use the intelligence He has given us, to figure out how we can make our time and our activities accomplish for Him. And I think that if we truly use the best intelligence we can and leave out of it our personal desires and feelings to the very greatest possible degree, I think we will find that when we make mistakes He works them out and leads in such a way that good comes even out of the mistakes that we make, if we have sincerely tried to determine what is His will in all things and recognize that He is the Head of the church and that we as a part of the Body of the His Body are part -- are subject to Him as the Head.

He gives gifts to the church as is described in Corinthians. He gives gifts -- in Cor. and Eph. and elsewhere it describes how He gives evangelists, teachers, ministers, all sorts of particular gifts for the church and so each member of the church has his function in relation to the church, but ~~his~~ his relation to Christ is most important of all in this regard.

Now we've looked at two types of relationship. We've looked at the relation of the individual believer to Christ. We've looked at the relation of Christ to the Church. Now there is a third type of relation that I believe is important and that we should also think of, and that is the relation of the members of the church to each other. We are related ~~directly~~ ^{and} directly to Christ in the most thing is how we carry out His will. But this will regards not only our relation to the outside world, but very particularly our relation to other members of the body. So ~~I~~ I think it is wise that we think ~~a~~ a bit about the relation of members of the Body of Christ to each other. In Gal. 6:10 we read, that as we have therefore opportunity let us do good to all men especially unto them who are of the household of faith. We are to do good to all men as Christians. We are to be a help. We are the salt of the earth. We are a help to the whole world. ~~is~~