

## GENERAL SUBJECT: THE ONE NEW MAN

### Message One

#### The One New Man and God's Eternal Purpose

Scripture Reading: Eph. 1:9, 11; 3:9; Rom. 8:29; 2 Tim. 1:9; Gen. 1:26; Eph. 2:15-16; 4:22-24

- I. The church, the Body of Christ, is the one new man to accomplish God's eternal purpose—Eph. 1:9, 11; 3:9; Rom. 8:29; 2 Tim. 1:9; Eph. 2:15-16; 4:22-24:**
  - A. The emphasis on the church being the Body of Christ is on life, whereas the emphasis on the church being the one new man is on the person.
  - B. As the Body of Christ, the church needs Christ as its life; as the one new man, the church needs Christ as its person.
- II. God's intention in His creation of man was to have a corporate man to express Him and to represent Him—Gen. 1:26:**
  - A. God's creation of man in Genesis 1 is a picture of the new man in God's new creation; this means that the old creation is a figure, a type, of the new creation—Eph. 2:15; 4:24.
  - B. God created man in His own image and then gave man His dominion—Gen. 1:26:
    1. *Image* refers to God's positive intention—that man would bear God's image for His expression.
    2. *Dominion* refers to God's negative intention—that man would have God's dominion to represent Him to deal with His enemy.
  - C. Eventually, the church as the one new man is the corporate man in God's intention, and this new man will fulfill the twofold purpose of expressing God and dealing with God's enemy.
- III. The one new man is a warrior fighting against God's enemy—Eph. 6:10-20:**
  - A. The warrior is not a status of the church but an aspect of the church as the new man.
  - B. The new man in the new creation has the twofold obligation of bearing God's image to express Him and of fighting against God's enemy.
  - C. The one new man fulfills God's purpose to express God and to fight against God's enemy for God's dominion, God's kingdom—Gen. 1:26.
  - D. The church as the corporate new man is the warrior, and the believers together make up this new man:
    1. Only the corporate new man as the warrior can wear the whole armor of God; no individual believer can wear it—Eph. 6:11, 13.
    2. We must fight the spiritual warfare not individually but in the Body, in the one new man.
- IV. The one new man was created through Christ's death on the cross—Eph. 2:15-16:**

- A. The new man was created by Christ with two kinds of materials—the redeemed created man and the divine element; on the cross Christ put these materials together to produce a new man.
  - B. In the creating of the new man, first our natural man was crucified by Christ, and then through the crossing out of the old man, Christ imparted the divine element into us, causing us to become a new entity—Rom. 6:6; 2 Cor. 5:17.
  - C. The one new man created through the creating death of Christ equals the Body formed in Christ's resurrection and ascension; hence, *the one new man* and *the Body* are synonymous terms and may be used interchangeably—Eph. 2:15-16; Col. 2:19; 3:10-11.
- V. The Bible reveals that the one new man is not an individual but a corporate, universal man—Eph. 2:15; 4:24; Col. 3:10-11:**
- A. The one new man is a corporate God-man, the aggregate of all the God-men.
  - B. We, the believers in Christ, are all one with Christ to be the new man; we all are parts of the one new man—vv. 10-11:
    1. There are many believers, but there is only one new man in the universe.
    2. All the believers are components of this one corporate and universal new man.
  - C. The phrase *in Himself* in Ephesians 2:15 indicates that Christ was not only the Creator of the one new man but also the sphere in which and the essence with which the one new man was created.