

Ecclesiology in the Epistle to the Ephesians — texts

1 Corinthians 10 ¹⁶The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion (κοινωνία) of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body (κοινωνία τοῦ σώματος) of Christ? ¹⁷For we, though many, are one bread and one body (έν σώμα), for we all partake of that one bread.

1 Corinthians 12 ¹²For as the body is one (τὸ σῶμα έν) and has many members, but all the members of that one body (μέλη τοῦ σώματος), being many, are one body (έν έστιν έστιν σώμα), so also Christ.

¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body
έν ένι Πνεύματι ήμείς πάντες εις έν σώμα 'εβαπτίσθημεν

Ephesians 4 ⁴There is one body and one Spirit
έν σώμα καί έν Πνεύμα . . .
⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism
έν βάπτισμα

—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink one Spirit (έν Πνεύμα). . . .

²⁰But now indeed there are many members, yet one body (έν δεσώμα)

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ (σώμα Χριστοῦ), and members individually.

Romans 12 ⁴For as we have many members in one body (έν ένι σώματι), but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵so we many are one body in Christ (έν σώμα έσμεν έν Χριστῶ), and individually members of one another.

Colossians 1 ¹⁸And He is the Head of the body, the Church (ή κεφαλή τοῦ σώματος τής 'Εκκλησίας), who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 2 ⁹For in Him dwells, bodily (σωματικῶς), all the fullness of the Divinity (τὸ πλήρωμα), ¹⁰and you are complete in Him, who is the head (ή κεφαλή) of all principality and power. . . . ¹⁸Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the Head (τὴν κεφαλήν), from whom all the body (πᾶν τὸ σώμα), nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

Ephesians 1 ²² And He put everything under His feet and gave Him as head (κεφαλὴν) over everything for the sake of the Church (τῇ Ἐκκλησίᾳ), ²³ which is His body (τὸ σῶμα Ἰησοῦ), the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 4 ¹ I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit (ἓν σῶμα καὶ ἓν Πνεῦμα), just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. . .

. . . ¹¹ And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up of the body of Christ (εἰς οἰκοδομὴν τοῦ σώματος τοῦ Χριστοῦ), ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to the perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ¹⁴ that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, ¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head, Christ (ἡ κεφαλὴ Χριστός), ¹⁶ from whom the whole body (πᾶν τὸ σῶμα), joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body (τὴν αὔξησιν τοῦ σώματος) for the building-up of itself in love.

Ephesians 5 ²³ For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the Church (κεφαλὴ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας); and He is the Savior of the body (σωτὴρ τοῦ σώματος).

Colossians 4 ¹⁴ Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you.