Truth in Focus

Pembroke Bible Chapel D Axford – Mar 8, 2009 Series No. DA-TIF-07

The Church Christ's Body on Earth

I. CALLED OUT FROM THE WORLD

- The Church on earth is composed of the saved who dwell on earth but who are not a part of its world system. (*John 17*)
- This world system operates under the god of this world, Satan, who appeals to the cravings of our physical, emotional, and mental makeup (2 Cor.4:4;1 Jn.2:16; Gal.5:16-21; 1 Tim.6:9; 1 Pet.1:14).

II. CONGREGATE AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

- True Christian unity is based on the truth that every living believer is a member of Christ's body on earth and that we are members of each other (*Eph.1:22,23; Col.1:18, 24;2:19; 1 Cor.12:12-27; Eph.4:12, 16; Rom.12:4-5*)
- As Christ was pure so ought also His body on earth to be pure.

III. COMMISSIONED TO GO INTO THE WORLD

• As Christ's representatives on earth, believers are sanctified and sent into the world as one body in the Lord (*John 17:11, 17-18, 21*).

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APPLICATION

"You are sent into the world but are not part of it"

- 1. How does Christ's prayer in John 17 affect the way you live? Was Jesus really telling the truth in this matter?
- 2. Are you entrenched in the cares of life or do you operate as just a sojourner here?

Making a living, your financial future, your children, etc. **Danger:** the great pressure to conform to this world.

3. What noticeable difference is there between you and your neighbor/workmate/fellow student?

The things you watch or listen to, things you talk about, material/financial matters, the things you devote time to such as your family, recreation, hobbies, etc.

- 4. What is the daily motivating force behind your actions? What is your motivation for wanting to excel? Is it for prestige/pride or to benefit others?
- 5. Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are His.

What fraction of your life is devoted to serving Caesar?

6. How do you implement the truths of the one body of Christ?

Where is your pendulum in regards to unity and purity?

How can you be pure yet model practical unity?

Suggestion:

- 1. Stop and evaluate every area of your life.
- 2. Set up an action plan for changes as revealed to you by the Lord.
- 3. Don't be overly ambitious; choose one item to start with and go from there.