

Christ As Head

Description

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Ephesians 4:8-16

In Ephesians 4:1-7, Paul outlines the qualities of the Church to live in unity. In verses eight through sixteen, he defines the functions of the Church. In verse eight, Paul quoted Psalm 68:18 about a conquering king who returned with his prisoners to demonstrate his power. Christ gave five ministry gifts—apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers—to assist His Church to grow to maturity. The purpose of these ministry gifts was two-fold: equipping believers to be fully qualified for service and edifying each believer with an internal relationship with Christ. Stability (v. 13) and integrity (v. 15) were indications of this maturity.

When parts of the body of believers are not healthy, growth and maturity will be hindered. The human brain controls the body's ability to think, feel, and function. Every part of a healthy body functions as the brain controls. Likewise, the Church must be controlled by Christ, as Head, for it to function in perfect unity and love to achieve maturity.

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