

A People, a Body, a Temple



The Church Is the People of God

God said,

“I will live in them and walk among them,
and I will be their God,
and they shall be my people.”

(2 Corinthians 6:16)

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

(1 Peter 2:9–10)

The Church Is the Body of Christ

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body; so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:12–13)

As it is, there are many members, yet one body. . . . If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Corinthians 12:20,26–27)

The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. (1 Corinthians 10:16–17)

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:27–28)



The Church Is the Temple of the Spirit

For we are the temple of the living God. (2 Corinthians 6:16)

Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? . . . For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple. (1 Corinthians 3:16–17)

You are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God. (Ephesians 2:19–22)

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house. (1 Peter 2:5)

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