

LIVING UNDER THE UNIQUE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST AND IN THE UNIQUE DIVINE FELLOWSHIP

(Friday—First Morning Session)

Message One The Unique Headship of Christ

Scripture Reading: Phil. 2:9-11; Acts 2:36; 5:31; Rev. 1:5; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15-16; Col. 1:18

- Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly ^{1a}exalted Him and ²bestowed on Him the ³name which is ^babove every name,
Phil 2:10 That ¹in the name of Jesus ^aevery knee should ²bow, of those who are ³in ^bheaven and ⁴on earth and ⁵under the earth,
Phil 2:11 And every tongue should ¹openly confess that Jesus Christ is ^{2a}Lord ³to the ^bglory of God the Father.
Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both ^{1a}Lord and ^bChrist, this Jesus whom ²you have ^ccrucified.
Acts 5:31 This One God has ^{1a}exalted to His ^bright hand as ²Leader and ^cSavior, to ³give ^{4d}repentance to Israel and ^eforgiveness of sins.
Rev 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, the faithful ^aWitness, the ^bFirstborn of the dead, and the ^cRuler of the kings of the earth. To Him who ^dloves us and has ¹released us from our sins ²by His ^eblood
Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,
Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.
Eph 4:15 But ¹holding to truth in ^{2a}love, we may ^{3b}grow up into Him in all things, who is the ^{4c}Head, Christ,
Eph 4:16 ¹Out from whom ^aall the Body, being ^{2b}joined together and being knit together through every ^{3c}joint of ⁴the rich supply ⁵and *through* the ⁶operation in the ^dmeasure of ⁷each one part, ⁸causes the ^{9c}growth of the Body unto the ^fbuilding up of itself in ^{10g}love.
Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

I. In ascension Christ is the God-exalted One, the One who has received the name which is above every name—Phil. 2:9-11:

- Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly ^{1a}exalted Him and ²bestowed on Him the ³name which is ^babove every name,
Phil 2:10 That ¹in the name of Jesus ^aevery knee should ²bow, of those who are ³in ^bheaven and ⁴on earth and ⁵under the earth,
Phil 2:11 And every tongue should ¹openly confess that Jesus Christ is ^{2a}Lord ³to the ^bglory of God the Father.
- A. The Lord humbled Himself to the uttermost, but God exalted Him to the highest peak—vv. 7-9.
- Phil 2:7 But ^{1a}emptied Himself, taking the ²form of a ^bslave, ^{3c}becoming in the ⁴likeness of men;
Phil 2:8 And ¹being found in ²fashion as a man, He ³humbled Himself, becoming ^aobedient even unto ⁴death, and *that* the death of a ^bcross.
Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly ^{1a}exalted Him and ²bestowed on Him the ³name which is ^babove every name,
- B. “God exalted Him and ushered Him back as Lord in the Godhead:
1. This was not just a refilling of what had been emptied but the ushering of a *man* into the Godhead by the Father.
 2. The Son became Jesus (the man) and was received back into the Godhead.
 3. Now we know the preciousness of the name of Jesus.
 4. In the whole universe there is no one like Him” (Watchman Nee, *Authority and Submission*, p. 45).
- C. God has bestowed on the exalted Christ “the name which is above every name”—v. 9:
- Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly ^{1a}exalted Him and ²bestowed on Him the ³name which is ^babove every name,
1. The highest name in the universe, the greatest name, is the name of Jesus—Eph. 1:21.
Eph 1:21 Far above all ^{1a}rule and authority and power and lordship and ²every ^bname that is named not only in this ^cage but also in that which is to come;

2. The name of the incarnated, crucified, resurrected, ascended, and exalted Jesus is excellent in all the earth—Psa. 8:1, 9.
Psa 8:1 O Jehovah our Lord, How excellent is Your name In all the earth, You who have set Your glory over the heavens!
Psa 8:9 O Jehovah our Lord, How excellent is Your name In all the earth!
3. *In the name of Jesus* means in the sphere and element of all that the Lord is; it is in this way that we worship the Lord and pray to Him—Phil. 2:10.
Phil 2:10 That ¹in the name of Jesus ^aevery knee should ²bow, of those who are ³in ^bheaven and ⁴on earth and ⁵under the earth,
4. The day is coming when those on every level will bow their knees and openly confess that Jesus Christ is Lord; on that day the Lord alone will be exalted—vv. 10-11; cf. Isa. 2:11-17.
Phil 2:10 That ¹in the name of Jesus ^aevery knee should ²bow, of those who are ³in ^bheaven and ⁴on earth and ⁵under the earth,
Phil 2:11 And every tongue should ¹openly confess that Jesus Christ is ^{2a}Lord ³to the ^bglory of God the Father.
Isa 2:11 Man's haughty look will be abased, And the loftiness of men will be humbled; But Jehovah alone will be exalted In that day.
Isa 2:12 For Jehovah of hosts will have a day Over everything proud and lofty, And over everything lifted up that it may be abased;
Isa 2:13 Over all the cedars of Lebanon, Which are lofty and lifted up, And over all the oaks of Bashan;
Isa 2:14 Over all the lofty mountains, And over all the hills that are lifted up;
Isa 2:15 Over every high tower, And over every fortified wall;
Isa 2:16 Over all the ships of Tarshish, And over all their pleasant artifacts.
Isa 2:17 And the haughtiness of the ordinary man will be humbled, And the loftiness of the men of distinction will be abased; But Jehovah alone will be exalted In that day.

II. The Lord Jesus has been made the Lord by God (Acts 2:33, 36), He has been exalted as the Leader over all the rulers (5:31), and He has been made the Ruler of the kings of the earth (Rev. 1:5):

- Acts 2:33 Therefore having been ^aexalted to the ^bright hand of God and having received the ¹promise of the Holy ^cSpirit from the Father, He has ^dpoured out this which you both see and hear.
- Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both ^{1a}Lord and ^bChrist, this Jesus whom ²you have ^ccrucified.
- Acts 5:31 This One God has ^{1a}exalted to His ^bright hand as ²Leader and ^cSavior, to ³give ^{4d}repentance to Israel and ^eforgiveness of sins.
- Rev 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, the faithful ^aWitness, the ^bFirstborn of the dead, and the ^cRuler of the kings of the earth. To Him who ^dloves us and has ¹released us from our sins ²by His ^eblood
- A. As God, the Lord was the Lord all the time (Luke 1:43; John 11:21; 20:28), but as man, He was made the Lord in His ascension after He brought His humanity into God in His resurrection; in His ascension He was made the Lord of all to possess all—Acts 2:33, 36; 3:15; 10:36.
- Luke 1:43 And how has this *happened* to me, that the mother of my ^{1a}Lord should come to me?
- John 11:21 Then Martha said to Jesus, Lord, ^aif You had been here, my brother would not have died.
- John 20:28 Thomas answered and said to Him, My ^aLord and my ^{1b}God!
- Acts 2:33 Therefore having been ^aexalted to the ^bright hand of God and having received the ¹promise of the Holy ^cSpirit from the Father, He has ^dpoured out this which you both see and hear.
- Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both ^{1a}Lord and ^bChrist, this Jesus whom ²you have ^ccrucified.
- Acts 3:15 And the ¹Author of ^alife you ^bkilled, whom ²God has ^craised from the dead, of ³which we are ^dwitnesses.
- Acts 10:36 The word which He sent to the sons of Israel in announcing the gospel of ^apeace through Jesus Christ (this One is ^bLord of ¹all)

- B. God exalted the man Jesus, who had been rejected and killed by the Jewish leaders, as the highest Leader, the Prince; He rules sovereignly so that the environment might be fit for God's chosen people to receive His salvation—5:31.

Acts 5:31 This One God has ^{1a}exalted to His ^bright hand as ²Leader and ^cSavior, to ³give ^{4d}repentance to Israel and ^eforgiveness of sins.

- C. As the Ruler of the kings of the earth, the God-exalted Jesus is the Ruler over all the ones who are in power; He is the chief Ruler in the divine government for the fulfillment of God's eternal plan—Rev. 1:5.

Rev 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, the faithful ^aWitness, the ^bFirstborn of the dead, and the ^cRuler of the kings of the earth. To Him who ^dloves us and has ¹released us from our sins ²by His ^eblood

III. In Christ's ascension God made Him the unique Head of the Body, the church, and inaugurated Him into the headship of the universe; the Head of the whole universe is Jesus—Col. 1:18; Acts 2:36; Eph. 1:22-23:

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Acts 2:36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both ^{1a}Lord and ^bChrist, this Jesus whom ²you have ^ccrucified.

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

- A. Ephesians 1:20-22 states that when Christ ascended to the heavens, God gave Him to be Head over all things to the church; this indicates that before Christ's ascension the headship of Christ was not complete, not fully established.

Eph 1:20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in ^{1a}raising Him from the dead and ^{2b}seating Him at His ³right hand in the ^{4c}heavenlies,

Eph 1:21 Far above all ^{1a}rule and authority and power and lordship and ²every ^bname that is named not only in this ^cage but also in that which is to come;

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

- B. In order for Christ to be the Head, He needs to be both God and man; contrary to the human concept, being God alone is not adequate for Christ to be the Head of the universe—1 Chron. 29:10-13:

1 Chron 29:10 And David blessed Jehovah in the sight of all the assembly. And David said, You are blessed, O Jehovah, God of Israel our Father, from eternity to eternity.

1 Chron 29:11 Yours is the greatness and the power and the splendor and the victory and the majesty, indeed all that is in heaven and on earth; Yours, O Jehovah, is the kingdom, and You are exalted as Head over all.

1 Chron 29:12 Both riches and glory proceed from You, and You rule over all. In Your hand are power and might, and it is in Your hand to make great and to give strength to all.

1 Chron 29:13 Now therefore, our God, we thank You and praise Your glorious name.

1. Christ as the Son of God alone was not fully qualified to be the Head over all things in God's administration—John 5:22, 27.

John 5:22 For neither does the Father judge anyone, but He has given all ^ajudgment to the Son,

John 5:27 And He gave Him authority to execute ^ajudgment because He is the ¹Son of Man.

2. According to His economy, God will not exercise His judgment in His administration as God alone; He needs a man to exercise His judgment in His administration because His administration is very much related to dealing with Satan—Acts 17:31.

Acts 17:31 Because He has set a ^{1a}day in which He is to ^bjudge the world in righteousness by the man whom He has designated, having furnished ²proof to all by ^craising Him from the dead.

3. God has a governmental administration in the universe mainly for two reasons—Gen. 1:26:

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

a. On the positive side, God needs an administration in order to carry out His eternal purpose—Eph. 1:10-11; 3:11; Matt. 6:9-10.

Eph 1:10 Unto the ^{1a}economy of the ²fullness of the times, to ^{3b}head up all ^cthings in ⁴Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

Eph 1:11 In whom also we ¹were designated as an ^ainheritance, having been ^{2b}predestinated according to the ^{3c}purpose of the One who works all things according to the ⁴counsel of His ^dwill,

Eph 3:11 According to the ¹eternal ^apurpose which He ²made in ³Christ Jesus our Lord,

Matt 6:9 ^aYou then pray ¹in this way: Our ^bFather who is in the heavens, ²Your name be ^csanctified;

Matt 6:10 Your ^akingdom come; Your ^bwill be done, as in heaven, *so* also on ¹earth.

b. On the negative side, God needs a government to deal with His enemy and all the evil powers—Col. 2:15; Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8b.

Col 2:15 ¹Stripping off the ^{2a}rulers and the authorities, ³He made a ⁴display of *them* openly, triumphing over them in ⁵it.

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in ^ablood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner ^bpartook of the same, that through ^cdeath He might ^{1d}destroy him who has the might of ^edeath, that is, the ^fdevil,

1 John 3:8b ... ⁴For this purpose the Son of God was ^cmanifested, that He might ^{5d}destroy the works of the devil.

c. Without man God's eternal purpose could never be fulfilled, and His enemy could not be dealt with; God needs man, another creature, to deal with Satan—Eph. 3:10; 6:10-13; 1 Cor. 6:2-3; Rev. 11:15.

Eph 3:10 In order that now to the ^{1a}rulers and the authorities in the ^bheavenlies the multifarious ^{2c}wisdom of God might be made known through the ^{3d}church,

Eph 6:10 ¹Finally, ²be ^{3a}empowered ^{4b}in the Lord and in the ^cmight of His strength.

Eph 6:11 ^{1a}Put on the ²whole ^barmor of God that you may be able to ^{3c}stand against the ^{4d}stratagems of the ^edevil,

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against ^{1a}blood and flesh but against ²the ^brulers, against the authorities, against the ^cworld-rulers of ³this ^ddarkness, against the spiritual *forces* of evil in the ^{4e}heavenlies.

Eph 6:13 Therefore ¹take up the whole ^aarmor of God that you may be able to ^{2b}withstand in the ^{3c}evil day, and having done all, to ^{4d}stand.

1 Cor 6:2 Or do you not know that the saints will ^{1a}judge the world? And if the world is judged by you, are you unworthy of the ²smallest ³judgments?

1 Cor 6:3 Do you not know that we will ¹judge angels, not to mention things of this life?

Rev 11:15 And the ^{1a}seventh angel ^{2b}trumpeted; and there were loud ^cvoices in heaven, saying, The ^{3d}kingdom of the world has become the ^ekingdom of our Lord and of ^fHis Christ, and He will ^{4g}reign forever and ever.

4. Because man is needed to carry out God's eternal purpose and to deal with His enemy, before Christ became a man, His headship could not be fully completed, fully established—John 1:14; Rom. 8:3; Heb. 2:14; Eph. 1:22-23:

John 1:14 And the ¹Word became ^{2a}flesh and ^{3b}tabernacled among us (and ^{4c}we beheld His glory, glory as of the only Begotten ⁵from the Father), full of ^{6d}grace and ^ereality.

Rom 8:3 For that which the ¹law could ²not do, in that it was ^aweak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the ³likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in ^ablood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner ^bpartook of the same, that through ^cdeath He might ^{1d}destroy him who has the might of ^edeath, that is, the ^fdevil,

- Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.
- a. By dying on the cross, Christ accomplished God's purpose, and He defeated Satan and destroyed the power of death—John 17:4; 19:30; Heb. 2:14.
- John 17:4 I have ¹glorified You on earth, finishing the ^awork which You have given Me to do.
- John 19:30 Then when Jesus had taken the ¹vinegar, He said, It is ²finished! And He bowed His head and delivered up His spirit.
- Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in ^ablood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner ^bpartook of the same, that through ^cdeath He might ^{1d}destroy him who has the might of ^edeath, that is, the ^fdevil,
- b. Because Christ gained the human element in His incarnation and accomplished God's purpose and defeated God's enemy in His crucifixion, He is now fully qualified to be the Head of the universe in God's administration—Phil. 2:5-11; Eph. 1:22-23.
- Phil 2:5 ¹Let ^athis mind be in you, which was also in ²Christ Jesus,
- Phil 2:6 Who, ^{1a}existing in the ^{2b}form of God, did ³not consider being ^cequal with God a treasure to be grasped,
- Phil 2:7 But ^{1a}emptied Himself, taking the ²form of a ^bslave, ^{3c}becoming in the ⁴likeness of men;
- Phil 2:8 And ¹being found in ²fashion as a man, He ³humbled Himself, becoming ^aobedient even unto ⁴death, and *that* the death of a ^bcross.
- Phil 2:9 Therefore also God highly ^{1a}exalted Him and ²bestowed on Him the ³name which is ^babove every name,
- Phil 2:10 That ¹in the name of Jesus ^aevery knee should ²bow, of those who are ³in ^bheaven and ⁴on earth and ⁵under the earth,
- Phil 2:11 And every tongue should ¹openly confess that Jesus Christ is ^{2a}Lord ³to the ^bglory of God the Father.
- Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.
- c. In Christ's ascension God inaugurated Him into the universal headship over all things for God's administration; thus, the headship of Christ is fully established—Heb. 1:3; 2:6-9; 12:2; Rev. 5:6; Eph. 1:22-23.
- Heb 1:3 Who, being the ¹effulgence of His glory and the ^aimpress of His ^bsubstance and upholding and bearing all things by the ²word of His power, having made ³purification of sins, ^{4c}sat down on the right hand of the ^{5d}Majesty on ⁶high;
- Heb 2:6 But one has solemnly testified somewhere, saying, "^{1a}What is man, that You bring him to mind? Or the son of man, that You care for him?
- Heb 2:7 You have made Him ^{1a}a little inferior to the angels; You have crowned Him with glory and honor and have set Him ^aover the works of Your hands;
- Heb 2:8 You have ^asubjected all things under His feet." For in subjecting all things to Him, He left nothing unsubject to Him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to Him,
- Heb 2:9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little ¹inferior to the angels because of the suffering of ^adeath, ^bcrowned with ^{2c}glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death on behalf of ^{3d}everything.
- Heb 12:2 ¹Looking away ^aunto ²Jesus, the ^{3b}Author and ⁴Perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the ^ccross, despising the ^dshame, and has ^{5e}sat down on the right hand of the ^fthrone of God.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a ^{1a}Lamb ²standing as ³having *just* been ^bslain, having ⁴seven ^chorns and ^{5d}seven ^eeyes, ⁶which are the ^fseven Spirits of God sent forth into ^gall the earth.
- Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

IV. Christ is both the Head of the Body, the church, corporately and of all the believers individually; He is the Head directly of every one of us—Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 11:3:

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

1 Cor 11:3 But I want you to know that ¹Christ is the ^ahead of every ²man, and the man is the ^bhead of the woman, and ³God is the ^chead of Christ.

A. In order for God to establish Christ as the Head over all things, He must first make Christ the Head of the church—Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23:

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

1. The future position of Christ in the universe has much to do with His position in the church today—Col. 1:18; 3:4, 10-11.

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Col 3:4 When ¹Christ our ^{2a}life is ^bmanifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in ^cglory.

Col 3:10 And have ^{1a}put on the ^{2b}new man, which is being ^{3c}renewed unto full knowledge according to the ^{4d}image of Him ⁵who ^ecreated him,

Col 3:11 ¹Where there ²cannot be ³Greek and ^aJew, ^{4b}circumcision and uncircumcision, ^{5c}barbarian, ⁶Scythian, ⁷slave, ⁸free man, but ^{9d}Christ is ¹⁰all and in all.

2. God must first secure Christ's headship in the church; this is why it is a crucial matter for Christ to be the Head of the church—Eph. 1:22-23, 10.

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

Eph 1:10 Unto the ^{1a}economy of the ²fullness of the times, to ^{3b}head up all ^cthings in ⁴Christ, the things in the heavens and the things on the earth, in Him;

3. The Body comes into existence from the transmission of the Head, and the Body is one with the Head in the divine life and in the divine nature—vv. 22-23; 1 John 5:11-12; 2 Pet. 1:4; Col. 1:18; 3:4, 10-11.

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

1 John 5:11 And this is the ^atestimony, that God ¹gave to us ^beternal ^clife and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:12 He who ¹has the Son has the ^alife; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

2 Pet 1:4 ¹Through ²which He has granted to us precious and ³exceedingly great ^apromises that through ⁴these you might become ^bpartakers of the divine nature, ⁵having ^cescaped the ⁶corruption which is in the ^dworld ⁷by ^elust.

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

Col 3:4 When ¹Christ our ^{2a}life is ^bmanifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in ^cglory.

Col 3:10 And have ^{1a}put on the ^{2b}new man, which is being ^{3c}renewed unto full knowledge according to the ^{4d}image of Him ⁵who ^ecreated him,

Col 3:11 ¹Where there ²cannot be ³Greek and ^aJew, ^{4b}circumcision and uncircumcision, ^{5c}barbarian, ⁶Scythian, ⁷slave, ⁸free man, but ^{9d}Christ is ¹⁰all and in all.

B. The whole Body is headed up under the Head; nothing in the Body can exist apart from the Head—Eph. 1:19-23:

Eph 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His ^{1a}power toward us who believe, ²according to the ^boperation of the ^cmight of His strength,

Eph 1:20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in ^{1a}raising Him from the dead and ^{2b}seating Him at His ³right hand in the ^{4c}heavenlies,

- Eph 1:21 Far above all ^{1a}rule and authority and power and lordship and ²every ^bname that is named not only in this ^cage but also in that which is to come;
- Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,
- Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.
1. We have received the divine life, but this life cannot be separated from the Head—1 John 5:11-12; Col. 3:4; 1:18.

1 John 5:11 And this is the ^atestimony, that God ¹gave to us ^beternal ^clife and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5:12 He who ¹has the Son has the ^alife; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

Col 3:4 When ¹Christ our ^{2a}life is ^bmanifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in ^cglory.

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
 2. We cannot be independent in anything, because only the Lord is the Head and only He is the source of our life—Eph. 4:15-16; 5:30.

Eph 4:15 But ¹holding to truth in ^{2a}love, we may ^{3b}grow up into Him in all things, who is the ^{4c}Head, Christ,

Eph 4:16 ¹Out from whom ^aall the Body, being ^{2b}joined together and being knit together through every ^{3c}joint of ⁴the rich supply ⁵and *through* the ⁶operation in the ^dmeasure of ⁷each one part, ⁸causes the ^{9e}growth of the Body unto the ^fbuilding up of itself in ^{10g}love.

Eph 5:30 Because we are ^amembers of His ^bBody.
- C. For Christ to be the Head is for Him to have all the authority in the Body—Col. 1:18; Matt. 28:18:
- Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Matt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All ¹authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
1. The Body cannot move freely; it can move only at the direction of the Head.
 2. The authority to direct the Body and all its members rests with the Head.
- D. Whether we are under the authority of the Head determines whether we know the life of the Body—1 Cor. 11:3; Eph. 4:15-16; Col. 1:18; 3:4:
- 1 Cor 11:3 But I want you to know that ¹Christ is the ^ahead of every ²man, and the man is the ^bhead of the woman, and ³God is the ^chead of Christ.
- Eph 4:15 But ¹holding to truth in ^{2a}love, we may ^{3b}grow up into Him in all things, who is the ^{4c}Head, Christ,
- Eph 4:16 ¹Out from whom ^aall the Body, being ^{2b}joined together and being knit together through every ^{3c}joint of ⁴the rich supply ⁵and *through* the ⁶operation in the ^dmeasure of ⁷each one part, ⁸causes the ^{9e}growth of the Body unto the ^fbuilding up of itself in ^{10g}love.
- Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Col 3:4 When ¹Christ our ^{2a}life is ^bmanifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in ^cglory.
1. The Body can have only one Head and can submit only to one Head—1:18.

Col 1:18 And He is the ^aHead of the ^bBody, the church; He is the ^cbeginning, the ^{1d}Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
 2. Only Christ is the unique Head, and we must submit to Him, honoring and testifying to the unique headship of the God-exalted Christ—Eph. 1:22-23; Matt. 23:8-12.

Eph 1:22 And He ^{1a}subjected all things under His feet and ²gave Him ³to be ^bHead over all things to the ^{4c}church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His ^{1a}Body, the ^{2b}fullness of the One who ^{3c}fills all in all.

Matt 23:8 But you, do not be called Rabbi, for ¹One is your ^aTeacher, and you are all ^bbrothers.

Matt 23:9 And do not call *anyone* on earth your father, for ¹One is your ^aFather, ²He who is in the heavens.

Matt 23:10 Neither be called ¹instructors, because ²One is your Instructor, the Christ.

Matt 23:11 And the ^agreatest among you shall be your servant.

Matt 23:12 And he who will ^aexalt himself shall be humbled, and he who will ^bhumble himself shall be exalted.