



Shepherding the Church

Lesson 9 • Ephesians 1:18-23; 4:7-16; 5:22-33; Colossians 1:15-18; 1 Corinthians 11:3-16

Ascension Questions

What Is Jesus' Earthly Focus? *He is LEADING His Church as the Head over all!*

The EXALTED LORD JESUS CHRIST in HIS ASCENSION				
GLORIFICATION	SESSION	PROCESSION	INTERCESSION	DIRECTION
Final Adam: God-Man <i>Shines in God's Presence</i>	Eternal King <i>Sits at His Right Hand</i>	Exceptional Prophet <i>Sends the Holy Spirit</i>	Royal Priest <i>Saves to the Uttermost</i>	Sacrificial Head <i>Shepherds the Church</i>
<i>The Glorified God-Man... Fulfills the Three Offices of Messiah ...in the Mystery of the Church!</i>				

The Ascended Jesus Is the HEAD Over His Church.

On the Day of Pentecost the ascended, seated, intervening Jesus sent His Spirit to birth His Church. Acts 2:32-47

- The **BIRTH** of the Church by the indwelling Spirit sent by the ascended Jesus!
- Our **UNION** with Christ who is the *Head of the Church: His Body and His Bride*.
- His **HEADSHIP** over all things as the glorified God-Man, Prophet, Priest, and King is for sacrificially loving and leading the Church.
Ephesians 1:18-23

Christ Is Head Over All for His Church

1. His DEFINITION of Headship.

*Head represents the **AUTHORITY** to lead others for God's glory and their good.*

Ephesians 1:19-23; Colossians 1:15-18

*As the head this authorized representative **SACRIFICIALLY** leads out of love to protect, provide, promote, and partner with others to fulfill God's purposes.*

Ephesians 5:22-30

*Headship and submission are God's creation **DESIGN** for men and women to complement and complete one another in fulfilling God's purposes.*

Genesis 2:7-25; 1 Corinthians 11:2-3; Ephesians 5:22-24, 32-33

2. His ASCENSION to Headship.

Four Ways the Ascended Christ is Head

1. Jesus is the **SCORNE**d Head over Israel.

Psalms 118:22; Matthew 21:42-44; Acts 4:10-12; cf. Zechariah 4:7; Isaiah 28:16

2. Jesus is the **SOVEREIGN** Head over everything.

Ephesians 1:19-23; Colossians 1:15-18; Matthew 28:18; Philippians 2:9-11

3. Jesus is the **SACRIFICIAL** Head over all humanity.

Romans 5:17-21; 1 Corinthians 11:3

4. Jesus is the **SHEPHERDING** Head over the Church.

As the Sovereign Head of the Church, the ascended Jesus shepherds His Church for our protection, provision, promotion, and partnership in fulfilling God's purposes on earth.

As our Head He is the sovereign source of the strength to sustain us in His fulfilling His purposes as His Body!

3. His **DIRECTION** in Headship.

As Our Head Jesus Directs...

1. The **PREPARATION** of the Church as His Bride. *Ephesians 5:25-30*
2. The **DISTRIBUTION** of gifts to the Church as His Body/Building. *Ephesians 4:7-12*
3. The **EDIFICATION** of the Church as His Building/Body. *Ephesians 4:13-16; Colossians 2:18-19*
4. The **COOPERATION** of the Church as His Household: *Male and Female in Christ.*
Genesis 1–3

Headship in the Master's Household

- **In the Household of Marriage:** Christ is the **MODEL** for husband and wife and all family members.
Ephesians 5:22–6:9; Colossians 3:18–4:1; 1 Peter 3:1-7
- **In the Household of Ministry:** Christ is the **MASTER** of His household for His glory and our good.
1 Timothy 2:1–3:16; 1 Corinthians 11:2-3; 14:33b-36; Titus 1:5-9; 2:1-10

*"I am writing **these things** to you, hoping to come to you before long; but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know **how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.** 1 Timothy 3:14-15*

What Are These Things?

- (2:1-7)** The **priority** of **prayer** for all in secular authority: *Peaceful order will prevail to spread the gospel to all peoples!*
- (2:8-10)** The **purity** of **sexual distinctions** in church worship: *Holiness, modesty, and godliness.*
- (2:11-15)** The **complementarity** of **gender roles** in church leadership: *Men are to function as elders not women.*
- (3:1-13)** The **necessity** of **character qualifications** for church leadership: *Men who are above reproach as elders and deacons including deacon wives or female deaconesses.*

LOOK UP to the Head who has all authority to lead His Church and **LIVE OUT** His message and mission as His partners with His protection and provision to fulfill His purposes on earth!