

HOLDING OUR HEAD

SERVING THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

"... And not holding the Head, from which all the body by joints and bands having nourishment ministered, and knit together, increaseth with the increase of God."

~ Colossians 2:19

1. One Lord

- a. In our series on the local church, we come now to talk about positions & authority
- b. Before we talk about elders, bishops, deacons, we must talk about our Head.
- c. In the local church, we have one Lord (not the pope, CEO, or pastor) – Eph 4:5
- d. We stand in liberty and grace, but do not forget we are under orders – 1 Thess 4:2
- e. Culturally, we resist submission, but all saints are servants – Rom 6:18, 14:7-9
- f. 'Lord' is not merely a religious title, Jesus Christ is Lord whether we assent or not

2. Holding the Head

- a. The Lord Jesus Christ is master, supreme commander, ruler, judge – Col 1:18
- b. The reason we do what we do is because we serve the Lord – Col 3:23-24
- c. We gather together as the church to serve Him better – 1 Cor 11:17-20, 1 Tim 3:15
- d. Our nourishment comes from him – Col 2:19, 1 Cor 3:7-9
- e. Our strength comes from him – Phil 4:13
- f. Our life comes from him – Col 3:3-4
- g. Grace from him, but so do our marching orders – Eph 2:8-10, 1 Tim 6:13-16

3. Failure to Hold the Head

- a. Authority in the church, without holding the Head, leads to oppressive religion
- b. Not holding the head = failure to respect his authority – Rom 10:2, Col 4:1
- c. There are rudiments of the world that are not after our Head – Col 2:8
- d. Do not replace Christ's headship with the rudiments of earthly religion – Col 2:9-18
- e. Desiring Christ's (God's) presence, people turn to physical objects, religious systems, commandments of men to satisfy the flesh – Col 2:20-22
- f. Christ rules the church by his word, giving each responsibility - Col 3:16, Eph 6:5-8
- g. Usurpers of authority will remove the word, or personal responsibility to the Lord

4. Loving the Lord

- a. Loving the Lord is a prerequisite to serving the Lord in the church – Eph 6:24
- b. We cannot meet without a common love for the Lord – 1 Cor 16:22-23
- c. Loving the Lord, holding the Head, does not disregard sound doctrine – Rom 16:17
- d. The local church is not for entertainment, celebrity, financial success, reputation, recreation, "satisfying of the flesh" – Rom 16:18, 1 Tim 3:15
- e. Christ is Lord of the local church, and we meet to serve, honor, and worship him.
- f. Our gathering to minister together is a practice in submission to our Head.