

STRONGER TOGETHER

Bible says one shall chase a thousand and two shall chase ten thousand because God sold our enemies to us (**Deuteronomy 32:20**). Every time this scripture is used in the bible referred to the army nature of the Body of Christ. Our call is to stand as an army on earth to extend God's glory and power on earth. Since there is never a one-man army we need to cooperate. Just like you do not choose your physical family so you do not choose the spiritual army. Jesus Christ said none of us chose Him but He chose us and ordained us that we should go and bear fruit and that our fruit should abide. Nothing great was done by an individual but look closely and you will see a team around such a person who worked strenuously with him or her to make that person great.

God has called us into a family and we must cooperate together to accomplish the purpose of God. It is tempting to separate and go solo but it is a sure route to insignificance because we all need the cooperation of our god-given family members to reach heights of greatness. We may not fully understand it but scriptures make it clear that when one part of the body suffers we all suffer with it and likewise when one part is glorified we share in that glory. By one Spirit we have all been baptised into one Body and we have essentially lost the sense of individualism. We are not an ordinary Body but the very Body of the Son of God (**1 Corinthians 12:13**). **Ephesians 5:30** goes further to say we are members of His flesh and of His bones. Once we accept our position as part of the Body and most importantly cooperate as members of one another we receive the indwelling and operation of the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit is to grant us access to all the glorious works of God for the Body of Jesus Christ. The aim of God is to glorify Jesus Christ in all creation and we are the Body of Christ.

The first action we take is to accept the invitation to be part of the Body of Christ. Our next great action is to cooperate with the members of the Body of Christ. This cooperation is what releases the promises of glory for the Body and its members. Many have accepted the invitation to become part of the Body but never taken up the responsibility to cooperate with the Body. Probably we do not know how to cooperate with the Body. We cooperate with the Body by understanding that Jesus Christ is to sit on God's right hand and His church is to make His enemies His footstool (**Psalms 110:1-3**). The scriptures continue to

say that Christ's Body shall be willing in the day of His power. Meaning that we shall take up the responsibilities of seeing Jesus Christ glorified on earth. Every action we take; every thought we have; and every word we say should be to see Christ being glorified on earth. If this is the desire and call of every member of the Body then we will be working together and pulling together in the same direction. This mandate will turn the Body of Christ into a great working mechanism on earth. This is what **Matthew 6:33** meant when it states that "seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness and all other things shall be added to you."

To be part of the Body is to tarry for the power promised to us individually and collectively. The work to subdue the enemies of Christ under His feet requires great power (**Psalms 66:3**). Bible says that when we come together each one should have a psalm, a doctrine, a tongue, a revelation and an interpretation in order to edify the Body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 14:26**). The Body of Christ must be equipped to do the work of ministry (meaning that everyone is being called into a unique ministry) so that the Body of Christ is edified. This ministry is to continue till the who Body come into the unity of faith, and come into the knowledge of the Son of God, and to come into perfection and to come into the full measure of the stature of Christ (**Ephesians 4:11-16**).

Christ should be our focus and the reason that we seek to cooperate. And the promises God made to Jesus Christ to put the whole creation under the control of His Body shall become ours.

By Pastor John Appiah