## The impact of Christ

Colossians 1:18-23

## Pre-eminent Christ: Son is the

- Image of God
  - made known the unknowable God
  - authority to forgive sins and save
- Firstborn of creation
  - all things were created by Him,
  - is sustained by Him and for His glory

(Colossians 1:15-17)

## Pre-eminence of Christ: Son is the

- Image of God
- Firstborn of creation

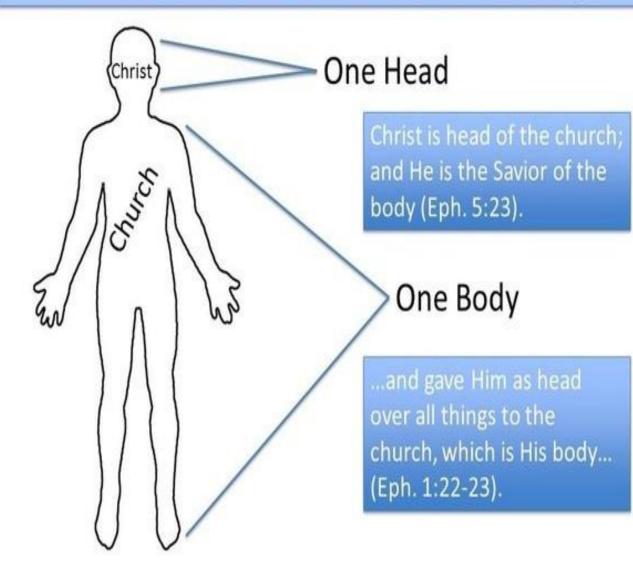
He is the Almighty God. He is worthy of our trust, worship and praise

## Who is Jesus Christ?

- 1. Head of the Church
- 2. Firstborn of Resurrection
- 3. Fully Divine/Sufficient Savior

- <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.
- <sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him.

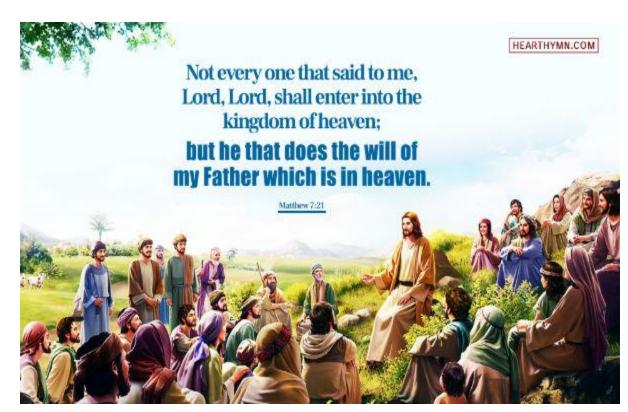
## **Bible Picture of Christ's Body**



Leadership, life and purpose

## Leadership

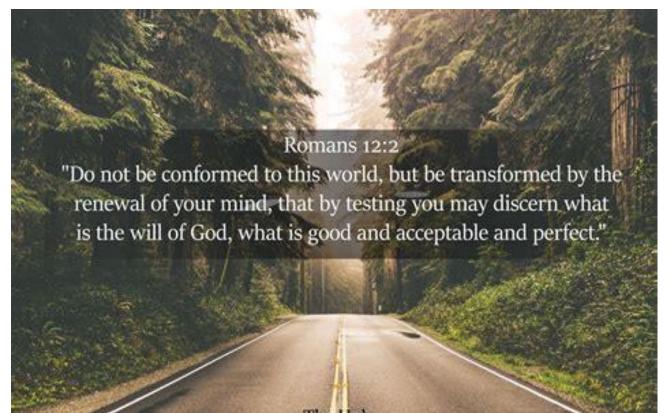
- connected to the head
- discern and follow His will



Only he that does the will of my Father (Matthew 7:33)

## Leadership

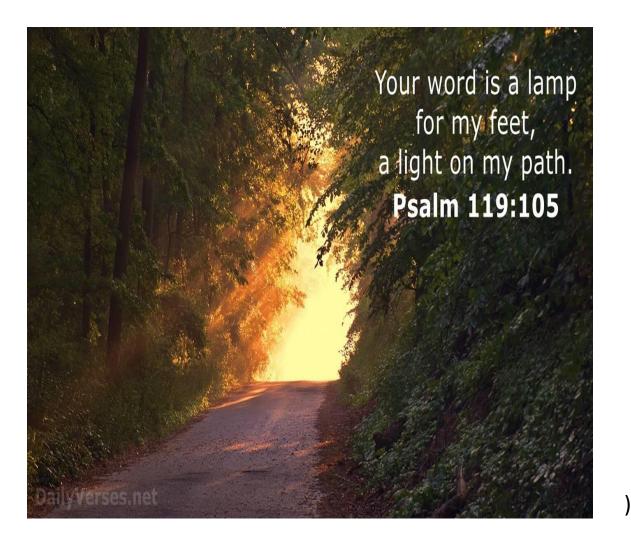
### • How to discern His will?



The Hub Collaboration Theme 2016 Renewal of mind: Transformed by The Word

Testing our will by the Word

## Discern His will



Not base on feelings, but on the guidance of the Word (Psalms 119:105)

## Discern His will

"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth..." John 16:13



### Holy Spirit will guide us according to the Word.

## Discern His will

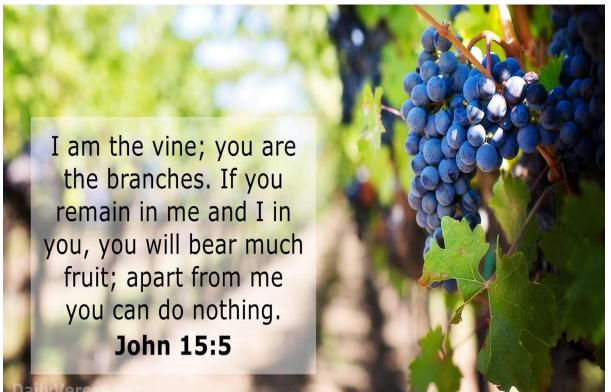
- Daily desire to seek
  His kingdom (Matthew 6:33)
- danger of 'compartmentalization'

### Live the spiritual into the physical

## His life - the source

- I am....the life (John 14:6)
- He is the Vine, we are the branches
  - draw nutrients
  - bear fruit

Dead and fruitless without the head



### THE THIEF DOES NOT COME EXCEPT TO **STEAL**, AND TO **KILL**, AND TO **DESTROY**.

I HAVE COME THAT

THEY MAY HAVE

## AND THAT THEY MAY HAVE IT MORE ABUNDANTLY.

JOHN 10:10

Satan seek to destroy us but Jesus came to give life abundant

> Love (Eph 3) Joy (James 1) Peace (Phil4:7)

© MYBIBLE.COM

## His purpose

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

## We are His witnesses

## Partner His ministry

#### 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

Ministry of reconciliation

Message of Reconciliation

# Ministry partnership: privilege

• Does not need us but included us...

'stones will cry out if they keep quiet..' (Luke 19:40)

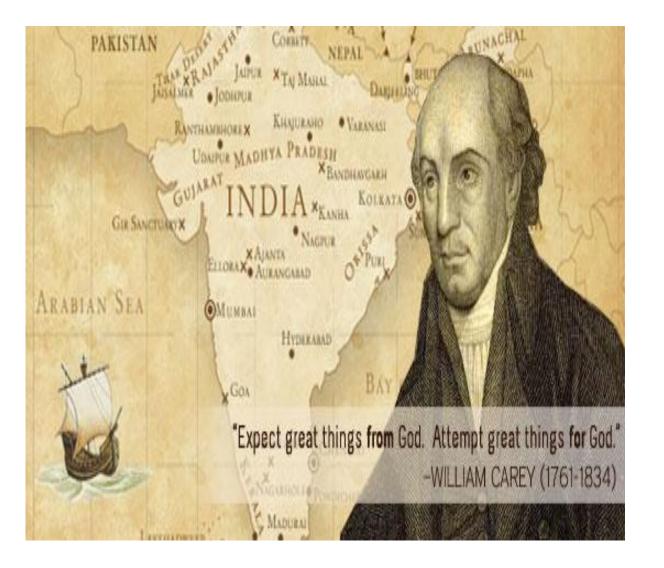
• Church mandate... manifest Christ's presence

wherever the church is not present, the presence of Christ is not manifest because His body is not there

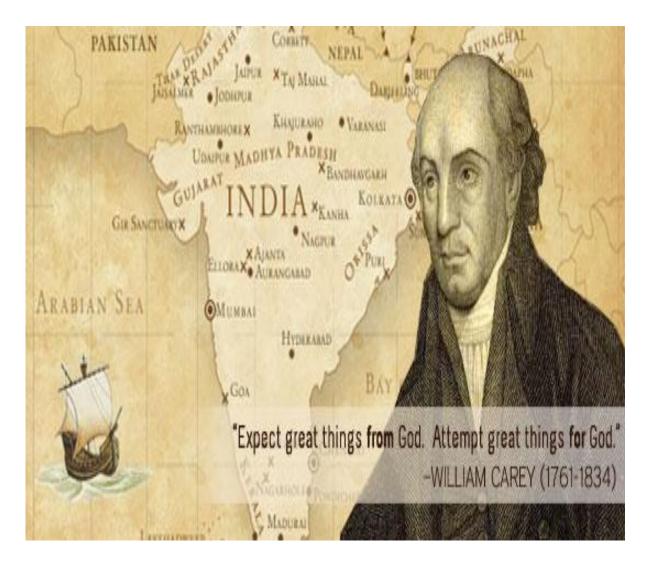
Ephesians 3:10 So that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

Vital role for the church

## William Carey



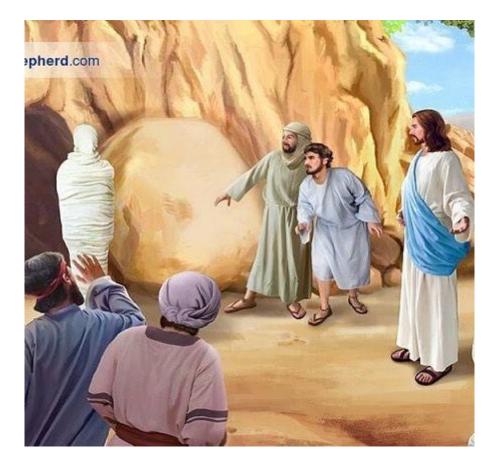
- Pioneer of Modern Missions.
- Founder Baptist Missionary Society, 1792.
- Missionary to India for 41 years.



Rouse up and go forth to conquer for Christ even the uttermost parts and the isles of the sea." (Deathless Sermon, 1792)

## Beginning/Firstborn of resurrection

• He will never die



1 kings 17:17-24

John 11:38-44



## Resurrection :

His resurrection – supreme importance
 'If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and

our faith is futile' (1Corinthians 15:14)

### foundation of our Christian faith

# If Christ had not been resurrected,

 <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. <sup>19</sup> If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

### No resurrection means NO hope

## Christ is risen....

 <sup>20</sup> But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

He is our hope for resurrection.

## Sufficiency of Christ

'God was pleased to have <u>all</u> his <u>fullness</u> dwell in him'

> Christ is sufficient to save because He is fully God

# Sufficient to be our Savior:

- Gnostics Jesus was not fully God,
  - he wasn't sufficient for salvation.
- Others good man, moral teacher, prophet, an angel
  - deny His Sonship

## C S Lewis said

• 'A man who is merely a man and said the sort of thing Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic... or else He would be the Devil of hell.

But we believe that:

- He is the Son of God as He claimed and
- we fall down to worship Him.

## Christ is:

- the image of God
- the Creator and sustainer of all creation
- the head of the body
- the firstborn of the resurrection
- the sufficient Savior
- ( Colossians 1:15-19)

## Impact of Christ :

- <sup>21</sup>Once you <u>were alienated</u> from God and were <u>enemies in your</u> <u>minds</u> because of your evil behavior.
- <sup>22</sup> But now he <u>has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through</u> <u>death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from</u> <u>accusation</u>—<sup>23</sup> if you <u>continue in your faith</u>, established and firm, and <u>do not move from the hope</u> held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

## Impact

#### God's initiative :

- Reconciliation
- Righteousness / present you holy

Our response :

• Remain faithful

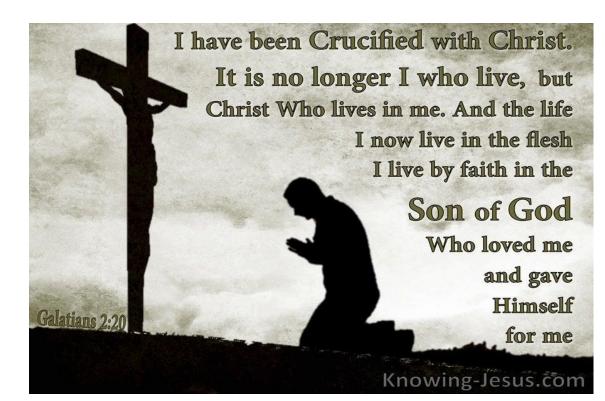
## Reconciled:

• Peace with God



## Reconciled:

- Peace with God
- Once alienated, now reconciled



Enemies in your minds: Alienated from God

### FOR THEY EXCHANGED THE TRUTH OF GOD FOR A LEE, AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED THE CREATURE RATHER THAN THE **CREATOR** WHO IS BLESSED FOREVER. AMEN. - ROMANS 1:25

### Spiritual blindness

## Righteousness

- made holy and without blemish in his sight.
- free from accusation of sin.

### **Right standing before God**

### **Divine initiative**

## Righteousness: our response

- Sanctification
- living sacrifice (Romans 12:1)

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.



# Sanctification: active response

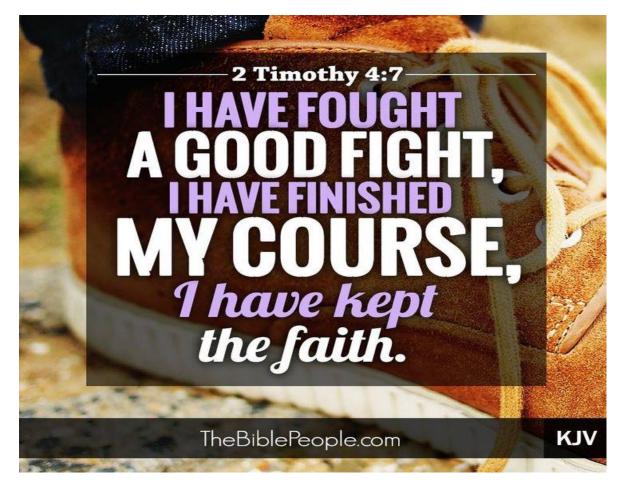
Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.



### Need to surrender our body daily

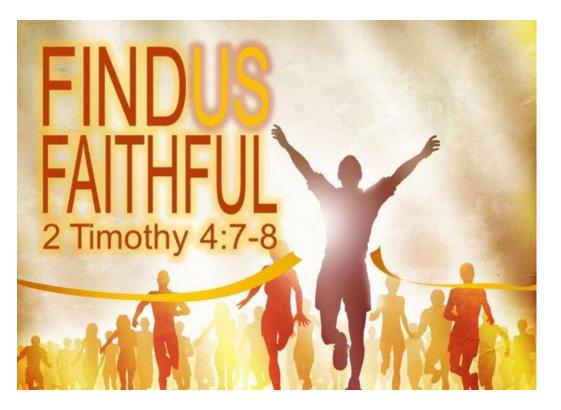
Remain faithful : continue in the faith

• 'Do not move from the hope'



It is important for Christians to continue in godly conduct.

## Remain faithful :



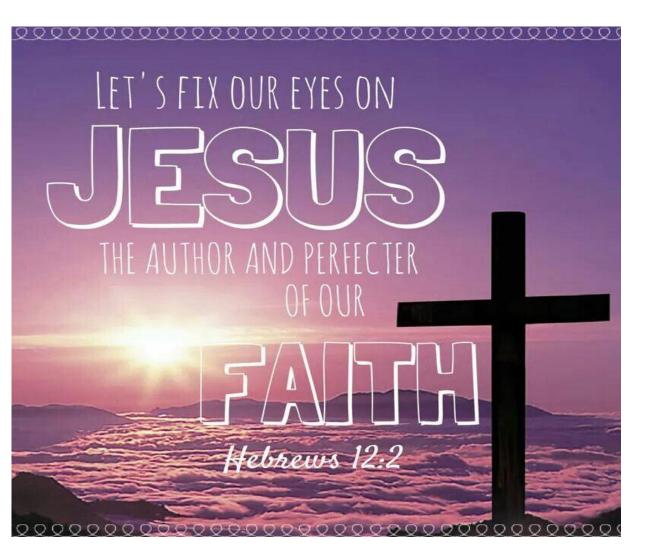
# Faithfulness is the test of genuine faith.

• Saints are those who finally persevere, continuance is the test of reality of faith (Bruce)

## Head of the Church

- connected to Him in obedience.
- have the hope of resurrection.
- partner Him in the kingdom mandate.

## Sufficiency Savior



He has reconciled us and made us righteous

## Impact of Christ : Faithfulness

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. HEBREWS 12:1

Perseverance: Is the true test of genuine faith

## Cloud of witnesses



Psalm 139:18

#### REVEREND NICHOLAS YEO KOK PENG

#### 17.02.1942 - 30.07.2021

Reverend Nicholas Yeo Kok Peng was called home to the Lord on Friday, 30 July 2021,

#### leaving behind children,

Eunice & Yazid, Paul & Christine and Veronika & Wee Lee and grandchildren Julia, Ethan, Zachary, Shawna, Ryan, Jeremy and Eliza and the entire Holy Light Church (English) Johor Bahru congregation of members and friends to mourn his departure.



Siok Ting