

Seven Pictures Of God's People

by Derek Prince

— Study Note Outline —
SP1

Three Tape Series

5027 *The Assembly*

5028 *His Body And His Workmanship*

5029 *The Family And The Temple Of God*

5030 *The Bride And The Army*

The Assembly

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I. Introduction

A. Written by *Paul alone* (compare Romans, Timothy & Titus)

1. Romans and Ephesians have a unique revelation—tremendous spiritual heights
2. Timothy & Titus—personal father-son spiritual relationship

B. Written from a *jail*—we must go *down* before we go up

1. Exemplified by Jesus—Eph 4:9–10
2. Enjoined upon us all—Eph. 5:21 (compare Prov. 15:33; 18:12)

II. The Seven Pictures:

1. Eph. 1:22—*Assembly*: Greek *Ekklesia* (compare Acts 19:32, 39, 41)
2. Eph. 1:23—*Body*: The body of Christ
3. Eph. 2:10—*Workmanship*: Masterpiece
4. Eph. 2:19—*Family*: Household
5. Eph. 2:21—*Temple*: Building
6. Eph. 5:25–27—*Bride*: Wife – bride of Christ
7. Eph. 6:10–13—*Army*: Soldiers

III. Basic Questions:

- A. What *purpose of God* does it serve?
- B. What is required in our *relationship to God*?
- C. What is required in our *relationship to each other*?

IV. Assembly:

- A. In analyzing the assembly, what picture and answer do each of the following three bring forth?
 1. The *assembly* expresses God's . . .
 2. The *assembly* requires toward God . . .
 3. The *assembly* requires toward each other . . .

V. Condition For Admission To Christ's Assembly:

- A. Matt. 16:15–18—I [Christ] will build *My* assembly. He will only *acknowledge* that which He *builds*. Pattern of Peter's experience:
 1. Confrontation
 2. Revelation
 3. Acknowledgement

4. Confession (compare Matt. 10:32–33)
- B. John 10:1–11
 1. Christ *crucified* is the *door*
 2. Christ *resurrected* is the shepherd (compare Heb. 13:20)
 3. All who gain access to the assembly by any other way are *thieves* and *robbers*
- C. “Zion” describes God’s people as an *assembly*. Heb. 12:22–24
 1. A company of angels
 2. The assembly of the firstborn
 3. Just men made perfect
 - a. Ps. 110:1–2—Christ rules by His *rod* out of His *assembly*
 - b. Matt. 18:15–20—Authority exercised by believers meeting and agreeing in the name of Jesus
- D. 1 Cor. chps. 11, 12, 14—Paul views God’s people primarily as the *assembly*:
 1. Especially 1 Cor. 11:3–10, 20–22; 12:28; 14:18–19, 22–26, 27–35, 40
 2. 1 Cor. 11:10—Because of the *angels* (compare Heb. 12:22)
- E. “Don’t organize—recognize!”
 1. 1 Thess. 5:12–13—*Know* them which labor among you
 2. 1 Tim. 3:1–13; 5:17–20—Qualifications to look for in leaders
 3. 1 Pet. 4:10–11—Recognizing each other’s “charisma”

His Body And His Workmanship

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I. Body

- A. In looking at the body, what picture and answer do each of the following bring forth?
 1. The body serves as God’s . . .
 2. Requires toward God . . .
 3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B. 1. Heb. 10:5–7—A body . . . to do thy will
 2. 1 Cor. 12:21—The head (Christ) . . . to the feet . . .
 - a. Gen. 3:14–15—The head . . . and the heel . . .
 - b. Rom. 16:20—Bruise Satan under your feet . . .
 3. Rom. 12:1–6—To find your correct place in the body
 - a. Present body
 - b. Mind renewed
 - c. Prove God’s will
 - d. Humble yourself
 - e. Place and function
 - f. Measure of faith
 - g. Appropriate gifts
4. 1 Cor. 12:12–26—*Unity and diversity*
 - a. v. 12–13—*Unity*
 - b. v. 14–20—*Diversity*
 - (1) Of members
 - (2) Of functions
 - c. v. 21—Interdependence
 - d. v. 22—Feeblest are most necessary
 - e. v. 23–24—Least honorable received most honor

- f. v. 25–26—Mutual *concern*
- 5. Eph. 4:16—Joints and ligaments =
Col. 2:19—Relationships sealed by covenant

II. Workmanship (Masterpiece/Work Of Art)

- A. In looking at the workmanship, what picture and answer does each of the following bring forth?
 - 1. Expresses God's . . .
 - 2. Requires toward God . . .
 - 3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B. Eph. 3:10—God's *manifold wisdom*
 - 1. Various examples:
 - a. Molded
 - b. Written
 - 2. Molded
 - a. Is. 64:6–8; Jer. 18:1–6—The potter uses *pressure* to produce the required shape
 - b. Rom. 9:20–24—The potter alone determines the use and shape of each vessel
 - 3. Written
 - a. 2 Cor. 3:1–3—The world reads the lives of those to whom we minister.
 - b. This is the true expression of our “theology” (compare 1 Cor. 6:9–11)

The Family And The Temple Of God 5029

I. Family

- A. Analyze the picture of the *family* and *answer* the following questions:
 - 1. Express God's . . .
 - 2. Requires God's . . .
 - 3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B. The picture of the *family* is *central* to the seven pictures
 - 1. Eph. 3:14–15; 4:6; John 14:6–9—The revelation of *God the Father* is both *source* and *climax* of all truth
Rom. 8:28–29; Eph. 1:5–6—The ultimate purpose of the *father* is to produce a family of many *sons*, all conformed to the pattern of Jesus
 - 2. Heb. 2:10–12; Heb. 5:6–9—Sanctification proceeds from the *Father* through *Christ* to all the *sons*. Because the *Father* acknowledges us as *sons*, Jesus acknowledges us as *brothers*, and He will continue to reveal the *Father* to us (compare Ps. 22:22)
 - 3. 2 Pet. 1:5–7—On the foundation of *faith*, seven successive phases of character building:
 - a. Virtue/excellence
 - b. Knowledge (Phil. 1:9–11)
 - c. Temperance/self-control
 - d. Perseverance
 - e. Godliness
 - f. Brotherly love (Greek: Philadelphia)
 - g. Christian love (Greek: Agape)
 - 4. 1 John 3:10–19—Two kinds of religion: Cain or Abel

II. Temple

- A. Analyze each picture of the *temple* and answer the following questions:
1. Provides God a . . .
 2. Requires toward God . . .
 3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B. The construction of the temple
1. Acts 7:48–49—God does not dwell in temples made with hands (2 Cor. 5:10)
 - a. 1 Cor. 3:10–17—“Ye” (plural): The *collective* temple
 - b. 1 Cor. 6:19–20—“Your body”: the *individual* temple
 - c. 2 Cor. 6:14–7:1—As God’s temple, we must be *holy*
 2. 1 Peter 2:4–5—Christ the foundation, each believer an individual stone
 - a. Hosea 6:4–6—Character hewed out by God’s prophetic Word
 - b. 2 Tim. 3:16–4:2—Scripture has four main uses:
 - (1) Doctrine
 - (2) Reproof
 - (3) Correction
 - (4) Instruction
 - c. Prov. 1:29–31; 5:11–14; 6:23–24; 9:8; 10:17; 13:18; 15:10, 31, 32—How to react to *reproof*
 3. Phil. 2:3–5—Humble appreciation of others
 - a. Luke 22:24–27—The *servant spirit*
 - b. Eph. 2:20, Rev. 21:14—“Apostles at the bottom holding us up”
 - c. Rom. 15:1–3—The real proof of *strength*

The Bride And The Army

5030

I. Bride

- A. Analyze the picture of the *bride* and answer the following:
1. Manifests God’s . . .
 2. Requires toward God . . .
 3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B. The bride’s relation to Christ
1. 1 Cor. 11:3, 7—As the wife is her husband’s *glory*, so the church is Christ’s *glory* (compare Eph. 1:12; 5:26–27)
 2. 2 Cor. 11:2–4—At present, as Christians, we are in the period between *espousal* and *marriage*. We have to prove our continuing *loyalty* to Christ. By the end of the age there will be only two groups in Christendom: either “harlot” or “bride” (Rev. 17:1–2; 21:9–10)
 - a. Heb. 9:28—Unto them that *look for Him* (compare Matt. 25:5–6; Song 5:2)
 - b. Rev. 19:7–8—Our preparation is to translate *imputed* righteousness into *outworked* righteousness (compare Phil. 2:12–13)
 3. Heb. 10:23–25—Regular fellowship: mutual concern and exhortation
Song 1:4—Draw *me* – *we* will run . . .

II. Army

- A. Analyze each picture of the army and answer the following questions:
1. Manifests God’s . . .
 2. Requires toward God . . .

3. Requires toward each other . . .
- B.** Our military relationship
 1. Ex. 15:3; Ps. 24:8–10—The Lord is a military commander
Col. 2:15; 2 Cor. 2:14—Christ’s triumph is to be manifested in His people
 2. Eph. 6:10–18—Conflict and armor
 - a. 2 Cor. 10:3–5—Spiritual weapons
 - b. 2 Tim. 2:3–4—Endurance and commitment
 3. 1 Chron. 12:23, 33–38—Perfect heart, able to keep rank
 - a. *Army :: Body* Ezek 37:1–10
 - b. *Army :: Bride* Song 6:4, 10
 - c. *Army :: Assembly* Ps. 110:3