

Intro:

READ WLC Q&A 64-66.

EP (Main point of text): God's elect are inseparably joined to Christ and thus share His mind and life.

HP: *Think and act like Jesus.*

Move 1: True believers are gathered from all nations and times to be one eternal people.

LC 64: the IC is "the whole number of the elect that have been, are, or shall be gathered into one under Christ the head.": elect: all God has loved from eternity to be His eternally.

- READ Ephesians 1:10, 22-23. "in one" "in Christ" "in heaven" "on earth" "His body"
- *And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.* (Joh 10:16) One final identity.
- *And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.* (Joh 11:52). Unity together in Him that expresses beauty.

Move 2: True believers enjoy special life functions some of the Visible Church only imitate.

LC 65: "members of the invisible church by Christ enjoy union and communion with him in grace and glory." Two main words that describe LC 64-90. Both here and in heaven:

- *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.* (Joh 17:21). "in/with" common expression. Not same nature. More than mutual love. Nearness. Intimacy. Mutual consent.
- *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; (Eph 2:5-6) Fellowship with Him and thus with one another.*
- *Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.* (Joh 17:24)

Move 3: You who truly believe in Christ are truly joined with Him now and forever.

LC: Communion later to be discussed, but is based on "union". Which is:

- "The work of God's grace": *That ... he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:* (Eph 2:7-8)
- "which is done in their effectual calling":

- ... *the God of all grace ... hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus ...* (1Pe 5:10)
- ... *ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.* (1Co 1:9)
- “whereby they are spiritually and mystically, yet really and inseparably, joined to Christ as their head and husband”: Eph 1:22: head of the church. Invisible, but real. Eph. 5:32: “great mystery”:
 - *And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.* (Joh 10:28)
 - *For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.* (Eph 5:23). This marriage never ends.
 - *For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.* (Eph 5:30)

1 Cor 6:17. Union with Christ is your being married to Jesus as His bride.

- Context: not to be joined with a prostitute (vs. 16). Your body joined to Christ (vs. 15)
- Argument from lesser to greater: union of flesh by bodies to union of spirit by faith.
- “Joined”, Greek: cleave, fastened, glued/cemented together. Won’t break. Literally.
- “One spirit”: one purpose, way of seeing world, sharing same goal: *For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.* (1Co 2:16)
- *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:* (Phi 2:5) One of servanthood.

Conclusion:

Thomas Watts: “Christ makes himself one with the spouse by conveying his image and stamping the impress of his own holiness upon her.” True believers ...

HP: *Think and act like Jesus.*