

## **Gleanings in biology applied to the body of Christ 'Parallels'**

Parenthesis are used to distinguish my remarks from the textbook remarks.  
Taken from: Modern Biology - Copyright 1956 by Henry Hold and Company, Inc.

- \_To show how the body of Christ functions best.
- \_To show the foolishness of jealousy and strife within the body.
- \_To show how the body works together.
- \_To show the wisdom of the scriptures.

It states on pg 23: Being alive is a problem. **You can't just exist.** Your body (in our study, the church) substance **responds to conditions around it.** The environment must supply the organic needs of life, as well as a suitable place to live. (This is why God established the church - the environment for the believer. Now let's see how it is supposed to function.)

Cells - each cell is a unit of life. (Each Christian is a cell in this comparison.) As living things become more complex, cells become specialists. pg 29 (I Corinthians 12:8-22: Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. **For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body:** so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, **Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body.** And the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor

again the head to the feet, I have no need of you. Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: . . .) The cell is the unit of structure of all and of their life activities or functions.

A cell is a tiny power plant. **Its product is life activity.** (So already we can see the importance of every one doing their job well, if we want much life activity. The cell's (Christian's) fuel is food (Bible). Thus the food you eat today will supply the force behind your thoughts, your movements, in fact your very life today and tomorrow. (That is from pg 37 in the text book except for the substitution of the word Christian and Bible. Meditate on it. The food you take in spiritually will supply the forces behind your thoughts, your movements, in fact your very life today and tomorrow.)

As a cell grows, it expands its wall (outer membrane) and increases the size of the protoplast. But the volume of protoplasm increases more than in proportion than the surface. This creates a serious problem. The protoplast receives oxygen and nourishment and discharges its waste through the outer membrane. Thus the volume-surface relationship of a cell is critical. Is the cell forced to stop growing when the protoplast becomes as large as its surface can supply? Certainly not. The solution to the problem is logical. You will probably conclude that the cell must be halved. . . pg 44 (Divide and conquer. Now you have two, then four, then eight, etc.)

**Life is a group of processes carried on by a living substance, protoplasm** (For spiritual application - Holy Spirit). These processes are the functional basis of life in every cell... pg 45 Protoplasm is the product of a chemical environment. Its substance comes from food (Bible), and food comes from soil minerals, water and air. (For spiritual purposes, God's ground work in the scriptures, Holy Spirit and the quickening. Note: the true evolution is a process, designed by a loving creator, of being transformed into the adult of a particular species by a group of processes. If the loving creator sees a need for a change in the constitution for adapting purposes, He uses the process theory and through a chemical process, He creates an over-comer.)

**The chemistry of life is a story of elements, the building blocks of matter.** Pg 47 (God created the Bible. It is fully equipped with the building blocks needed to create the Spirit of Christ in each of us.)

**Living things are under the constant influence of the physical factors of the environment.** pg 89 (This is why God teaches His people to be choosy about the company they keep. Psalms 1:1-3: Blessed is the man that walketh

not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Proverbs 13:20 He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed. I Corinthians 5:9-11: I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.)

**This excerpt shows the authenticity of the account of the beginning in Genesis.**

What if the **seed bearing plants** had not replaced most of the more primitive plants during the past ages? There would have been no cereal grains . . . , no potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, onions, radishes, etc. Could our civilization ever have developed in such plant surroundings? You may debate this point. But one thing is certain. Our plant and animal industries, in fact, our very survival is geared to the seed plants. Pg 125 (Genesis 1:11,12: And God said, **Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth:** and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. Genesis 1:27-30: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. And God said, **Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.** And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.)

**Roots** - The next time you look at a plant try to visualize its root system. **Think of it as the underground activity which is necessary to support the part of the plant you see above ground. And the next time you see a**

**plant bending in the wind, think of the root system as its anchor.** pg 138 (Mark 4:3-6: Hearken; Behold, there went out a sower to sow: And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth: But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and **because it had no root, it withered away.** Ephesians 3:17-19: That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, **being rooted and grounded in love,** May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Colossians 2:6-7: As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in Him: **Rooted and built up in Him,** and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**The importance of water in the body.** Pg 463 Water is so essential that a person deprived of it dies sooner than he would if deprived of other types of food. (The rivers of living water are provided in the Holy word, administered by the Holy Spirit. A member of the body or a body will die quickly without this. As the water quenches the members or cells of the body of Christ's thirst for God it supplies the whole body, the church, with freshness and vitality and health.)

Water is inorganic, it does not yield energy. Sixty or seventy percent of our body weight is water. Water is essential as a solvent in the transportation of food and waste products. The definition of solvent is a liquid used to dissolve other substances. (In the body of Christ's case the substances that it dissolves are fear, hopelessness, sorrow, loneliness, emptiness, etc.)

Water is also used as a solvent to move dissolved foods from the digestive tract to the blood and in the removal of tissue wastes from skin and kidneys. (The Holy Spirit moves things along in the right way.)

**Minerals salts and other minerals** are vital to the body in many ways. Each of the minerals however must be in a compound form before it can be used by the body. Eating such chemically pure elements such as sodium or chlorine would result in death. But a compound form makes them harmless and necessary. Pg 464-465

(One message I get from that statement is that we cannot give the people the

wrath of God without the good news. Also we cannot give them the good news without the judgment and justice of God. We are called to be the salt and to minister the grace.

Another interpretation would be that we cannot look on the Holiness or pureness or total glory of God all at once without our body being shocked into death. Our body is earthen and corrupted; therefore seeing the fullness of God while in it would be too much of a shock to endure, so He gives us a little at a time in a compound of instructions, promises, revelations, and testimonies--glimpses and touches.)

**Fats are highly concentrated energy foods** obtained from milk by products and from oils, nuts, and meats. Fats are not as needed in little physical activity but are necessary in much activity. Pg 466 (Hebrews 5:11-14: Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

I Peter 2:2: As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. . . The Holy Spirit is the anointing (OIL).

The teachings in the Bible that motivate and energize Christians must be the spiritual fats.)

**Proteins are extremely complex chemical compounds which might be compared to buildings.** The blocks that form the building are called amino acids. During digestion, the 'buildings' which a person eats are completely wrecked and the individual 'blocks' or amino acids of several kinds, enter the blood stream. Cells absorb these 'blocks' and then build new 'buildings,' or proteins. These proteins then become part of the person's protoplasm and growth or repair of tissue is accomplished. Pg 467 (This would be the word given in season. Isaiah 50:4: The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.)

Other food substances are sodium, calcium, phosphorus, potassium, iron, carbohydrates. (**Sodium (salt)** is a food substance. Matthew 5:13: Ye are the

salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Mark 9:50: Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another. Salt in the body is essential in blood and other tissues. We know that salt is a preservative, it is a flavoring, it is used to get rid of certain odors, salt melts ice, salt make you thirst, salt added to water will help it maintain it's warmth. So we can see that the words of God referred to as the salt are for healing, preserving and making edible.)

(**Vitamins** are to be compared with following all God's instructions instead of some of it. A lack of the proper amount of vitamins in the body causes deficiency, disease. Every one of these substances is found in milk and vegetable and fruit.) pg 469-471

When you consider the different uses the body makes of food (the Bible), in **growth and repair** of its tissues, (Tissue includes bones - framework, joints - fitly join together, ligaments and tendons- connective tissue and muscles - produce movement.) **as an energy source for maintaining life**, in the **regulation of life activities**, and in the **maintenance of a normal, healthy condition** in the body tissues, you can see why a balanced diet is essential. No single class of foods can do all of these things. Pg 483 (These are the benefits of a balanced diet of the word of God in the church. This excerpt stresses the importance of a balanced diet. The Bible is balanced. For the churches health, it must be taught as is. Not understated or overstated. Not underemphasizing some things and overemphasizing other. Not dining on our favorites and barely tasting the boring or seemingly unpleasant part.)

(**A balanced diet** is a mixed diet that conforms to all body needs. Severe nutritional diseases can result from improper diet. Pg 472 (Some have taught that we need to balance scripture with some worldly views that can be compared with mixing some good food with some junk food. The Bible is balanced. All you have to do is feed on all of it, not just portions of it.)

\*\*\*\*\*

There are **10 life functions** common to protoplasm and **carried on by every living cell**. Pg 37-45 (Protoplasm, here is the living substance, thus for us it must be the Holy Spirit. )

1. Food-getting or food production (The Bible is the nourishment.

The banquet table. If we do not feast on the pure teachings of the word, we end up with junk food and watered down drink.)

2. Digestion - (Not only must Christians feast on the true and pure word, but they must digest it. Joshua 1:8: This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: **for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.**)

When you consider the different uses the body makes of food, in growth and repair of its tissues, as an energy source for maintaining life, in the regulation of tissues,, you can see why a balanced diet is essential. No single class of foods can do all of these things. And, when you realize that all of the varied foods you eat in your daily meals reach the tissues in a few basic, simplified forms, you can see why your life depends, not just on your next meals, but on the physical and chemical digestive processes which must follow them. Pg 483 (In the spiritual body a balanced diet is also essential. The Bible is already laid out in a balanced format. One of the reasons the church is in poor condition is because the Christians over eat in some areas like grace, the blood of the lamb, forgiveness, etc. and neglect many matters that the Bible emphasizes or mentions often. But the Bible is the balance. The churches balanced diet is to live by every word of God.)

3. Absorbtion - (Luke 9:44: Let these sayings sink down into your ears: . . .)

4. Respiration - (John 20:21-23: Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent Me, even so send I you. And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.)

5. Assimilation or growth - (Ephesians 4:11-16: And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh

increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

6. Excretion - (The body functions of the liver, kidneys is to get the junk food and poisons out of the system. There is a place for prophets.)

7. Secretion - **every cell is in a sense a tiny chemical factory. They form chemical substances essential to other life processes.** These are called secretions. (We can relate these to words. What chemical substances are you throwing off?)

8. Motion - (Activity)

9. Sensitivity - Nerve cells are specialists in sensitivity pg 44  
(Compassion, empathy, mercy)

10. Reproduction - (Matthew 28:19-20: Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. John 12:24: Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. [Take up the cross])

**The human body is organized into tissues, organs, and systems.**

(Therefore the church is made up of tissues, organs and systems.) **Let's see how it works together.**

**Each organ is specialized to perform a definite function or a group of related functions involving several different tissues.** Example: The arm is composed of epithelial tissue, bone tissue, cartilage, muscle tissue, blood tissue, nerve tissue, and other tissues. All these function together to perform such acts as grasping, writing, sewing. Pg 452 (The arms in the church are able to operate because of an intricate system of cooperating parts. Point two: the arm's whole purpose in life is to serve the body. Point three: the arm is not independent, but neither is it subject to other parts to know when to function. The brain (Jesus) is the only one who dictates to the arm. Many of the things it does are without direct orders, because it knows its job. **The point is that the body functions well when each part knows its job and each part is a specialist and is free to function as it sees fit.**)

The **brain** - The brain is probably the most highly specialized and least understood organ of the human body. Pg 527 (Jesus is the brain and He can transmit His teachings and desires through anyone and everyone in the body. But, unfortunately, through the ages, He has become limited to what the pastor and maybe a few others can receive. This is one of the reasons the body of Christ is so limited, today. Jesus is highly specialized and little

understood. He wants the effectual working of every part.)

The **Heart** pumps the blood to all parts of the body. - The center- pumps the life to all parts. Pg 504 (Jesus)

**Arteries** (five-fold ministry - carries the blood to different parts of the body. Whatever blood they receive-good or bad.)

**Blood is the transporter or distributor of all substances in the body.** pg 498 (Again, this ties right in with the Gospel and spiritual life. John 15:4: Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me. God has provided life. He has provided safeguards, such as clotting of the blood. Clotting stops the loss of a dangerous amount of the life-giving flow. Clotting itself depends on certain substances being present. If they are not there clotting cannot take place.) pg 500

**Anemia** is a condition caused by a loss of blood, or lack of iron or failure of blood-forming organs to produce or poison killing red blood cells or infection. God has provided the army and strategic plan. Pg 501 (The church can become anemic from a lack of knowledge, understanding, and other nutrients from the Bible.)

The **lungs** - Inspiration and expiration of air. Pg 489 (These are those who spend a lot of time with the Lord. They receive inspiration and they share it with the rest of the body. They are the encouragers, the cheerleaders.)

**Respiration is a life process common to all living things.** It is the exchange of gases between cells and their external environment. It is necessary to have some means of receiving oxygen at one place and carrying it to the body tissues. First, we have the external exchange of gases between atmosphere and blood, then the internal exchange between the blood and body tissues. Pg 489 (In the breathing process in the body of Christ we must breath in the Holy Spirit. John 20:22: And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost: . . . So the lungs, of the body of Christ, breathe in the Holy Spirit and breathe out anointed words.

**Oxygen** - carbon dioxide is essential in oxidizing. Oxidize - activate energy by making it possible to be burned or used up. Pg 489 (The things we breathe in are what activate the energy we obtained from the food we ate. If we ate a large portion of the 'prince of the power of the air', then we receive

no healthy amount of oxygen to activate our energy to do God's will. And we are ineffective.) Lungs can be poisoned. Carbon monoxide (the enemy) will not support life, yet it combines with the hemoglobin of the blood 250 times as readily as oxygen. Thus a small amount of it in the air will be absorbed in preference to a much larger concentration of oxygen. Furthermore when carbon monoxide combines with hemoglobin it is very difficult to separate the two. This results in loading the blood with carbon monoxide and decreasing oxygen power, Tissue suffer from starvation. The victim become lightheaded and ceases to care about his condition. Soon paralysis sets in and he cannot move and he succumbs. Pg 495 (Wow! Does that describe what taking in the wrong influences will do to a Christian or what? Relate carbon monoxide to bad influences and carbon dioxide to good influences. So bad influences can easily infiltrate and they will paralyze the body of Christ.)

The **kidneys** - act as filters. Pg 522 (The church needs kidneys. They are the filters. They recognize when the flow of input and output of the church is impure. Often they are labeled judgmental or trouble-makers. The church must be discerning. Will their objection help or hurt the body of Christ? If it will improve the body functions and not take away from the grace of God, they are kidneys, not trouble-makers.)

**An amazing system of glands, operating like the balance wheel of a watch, controls the vital activities of the body.** Pg 512 (In the church, these are the deacons, elders and pastor.)

**Thyroid gland - regulates body temperature and heart action.** (Relating this body part to the church, God has people there whom He wants to use to see that the church remains hot, but not boiling. Revelation 3:14-16: And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth.)

**Pituitary gland - Influences and regulates growth, and reproduction.** This small gland, . . . lies at the base of the brain. It was once thought to be the 'master gland' of the body, since its secretions appeared to influence the activity of all other endocrine glands. However, it is now known that other glands, especially the thyroid and adrenal glands, influence the pituitary gland. pg 514 (The deacons, elders and pastors influence and regulate

growth by their actions and decisions.)

**Adrenal glands - superhuman strength.** (Those who operate in the gifts of the Spirit.)

The **liver** is the largest organ. Pg 480 It serves as a chemical factory and a storehouse for ingredients. (These are the peace-makers, keeping the unity of the body.)

The **pancreas - helps with digestion and produces insulin, which supplies energy food to the tissues.** (This would be those who can explain spiritual things and produce energy in the body.)

The **ears** - In order to be fully aware of our surroundings and have good communications we must be able to hear. Pg 541 (Jesus said: Mark 4:23-28:

If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. And He said unto them, Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given. For he that hath, to him shall be given: and he that hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he hath. And He said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. Jesus is associating hearing with planting seed. So the ears in the body of Christ should also be the teachers.)

The **eyes** - pg 543 (In the body of Christ these are the prophets. This would be those whom the Lord reveals instructions and warnings through.)

The **mouth** - Its chief function is to prepare the food for digestion. The mouth also is an organ of sensation and an organ of speech. Pg 474 (Notice that the mouth is used to take in food and put out words. This is no accident. Again, God's message is what you eat is what you are. You have to eat spiritual food in order to speak spiritual words i.e. life-giving words. Matthew 12:34-37: O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. About preparing the food for

digestion, as a cow chews her cud, so when we hear messages, we should store them and bring them up later and sort the good from the bad. Swallow what is truly Bible teaching and spit out the rest.)

The **legs and feet** - (They are the people in the church who do all standing and running. They are the go-for, the chauffeurs and the heralds.)

The **hands and fingers** - (Those who grasp and work ideas. Think about how the hands and fingers work. They are not competing. They do not have a private agenda. They are perfectly content to contribute to the whole without any personal recognition at all. That's the true spirit of unity of mind and purpose. They are like that because they are programmed to serve the main interest, not themselves. Christians must renew their minds to the Bible teachings until they serve the same way.)

The **bones** - The human body is organized into tissues, organs, and systems. The body framework consists of an internal skeleton composed of bones which give the body form, act as levers for muscles, and protect the more delicate organs. Pg 461 (The bones of the church are the patriarchs and apostles. Ephesians 2:20-22: And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. The bones also are a stable surface for the muscles to run on. The muscles are prophets and apostles and evangelist teachers (the men of faith) they are the ones who make the body function as the head [Jesus] commands.)

The **joints** - (The joints are the places where the frame is fitted together. The body has joints to cause the parts to be moveable and therefore function as useful instruments. Ephesians tells us the body of Christ will grow and edify when they are fitly joined together and held together by that which every joint [joined party] supplies, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part. Though each member is different and has a different function, they must be joined together. The body of Christ has some things in common. They are one spirit, one body, one hope, one baptism, one Lord, one faith, and one God who is their Father. They have one job, that is to obey the head. One goal to evangelize the world and then bring in the reign of righteousness.

The **muscles - the body has four hundred kinds**, some of them are

voluntary, they must be moved each time by direct orders from the brain, some of them are involuntary, they react to certain situations automatically. Pg 457 All motion of the body is done by muscles. **Some muscles are stronger than others, but all must work effectually in order to have harmony and strength and best results.** Muscles receive power from the protoplasm (Holy Spirit) and organic substance. (The Word) The combination of muscles to produce movement results in **muscular coordination.** (The muscles in the body of Christ enable it to operate. These are those who receive ideas, join with others who help implement them. Since the joy of the Lord is our strength, these are obviously motivated by the joy of the Lord.)

The **skin** - Protection of the body from mechanical injury and bacterial invasion. Protection of the inner tissues against drying out. pg 523 (The church needs a protective covering--Those who shield it from worldly thinking and keep it from losing the Holy Spirit. Generally this is the job for the pastor and elders, but that is not to say that others have nothing to contribute. But they should go to the elders with their information.) The skin has five different types of nerve endings each associated with a different sensation. Pg 539 Skin detects heat and cold. (That's part of that protective group of members.)

**Feeling, taste, smell, hearing, seeing .** (All members of the body need to be able to sense when the teaching, idea or action is too hot or too cold. They all need to develop a keen sense of taste, of smell, and hearing. And they all need to see clearly. But there are certain members of the body of Christ who are the keenest. They should be the ones in charge of the different teaching and witnessing ministries, because they can tell whether the thought or idea has been presented in the most attractive and tempting manner.)

\*\*\*\*\*

### **How the devil operates.**

**Animal camouflage** - The blending of an animal with its surroundings is a kind of camouflage. Many animals owe their existence to this protection. Animal camouflage involves several principles. Sometimes the animal is colored and marked like its surroundings. When it is, we refer to the camouflage as **protective coloration.**

Fish illustrate a slightly different principle, called **countershading.** In this case, darker colors on the upper side fade into light colors on the lower side.

The large-mouth black bass is a good example. The upper region of the body is greenish. This blends with colors on the bottom of the lake or stream. It is nearly white on the lower side. This color blends with the reflections of sky in the water, thus protecting the bass from enemies above and below it.

**Protective resemblance** is still another principle of animal camouflage. In this case, the animal resembles something other than itself. Certain wormlike insect larvae which feed on leaves look almost like short twigs. When disturbed, they stiffen and hang out from the twig. It is almost impossible to tell which is plant and which is larva.

**Mimicry** is one of the strangest of all protective resemblances. However, in this case the animal resembles another animal rather than a part of the environment. For some reason, the robber fly resembles a bumblebee. This gives the fly the protection the bee has earned with its stinger. Pg 96-98 (Camouflage is a lesson for the church. The devil makes himself look like an angel of light or like a friend or like a wise person in order to deceive people. He pulls all of the above methods, not for protection, but to avoid detection so he can do his dirty work. II Corinthians 11:14-15: And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. Jesus said: Matthew 7:15-20: Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Mark 13:5-6: And Jesus answering them began to say, Take heed lest any man deceive you: For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.)

**To produce infection the germ must be able to multiply in the body.** The most effective way to avoid infection is to prevent the organisms from entering the body. Pg 570 (In order for bad influences to infect the church they must be able to multiply.)

**Viruses** (certain spiritual diseases) are not understood, yet. They are smaller than bacteria. **They have a way of changing their characteristics.** They do

not reproduce in the same way as bacteria. It is not known if they are alive or not, whether they come from genes or molecules, **but they cannot grow in anything except living cells. They can be fought through resistance and immunity. First line of defense is the skin. If it is unbroken, it is bacteria-proof.** Pg 572 (If the church has on the full armor of God, it will be bacteria-proof.) Another first line defense against the enemy includes the acid of the stomach which destroys them. (loins girt a bout with the truth) The eyes (those who see clearly in the body of Christ) are provided with tears which are slightly antiseptic and cleanse the eyeballs continually. Pg 572 (Hebrews 5:7: Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that He feared; . . .) When disease-producing bacteria pass the first line of defense, as, for example, through a break in the skin, the **white corpuscles** (the army) leave the blood vessels and migrate through the tissue fluids to the site of infection. They make a wall around the invading germs and begin to engulf them. It then becomes a race between the multiplication of bacteria and their destruction by the white corpuscles. Pg 573 (This is important. Note that God built an army in the human body to fight the bad guy. This should settle the question; does God believe in war? For our purposes in this study, the white corpuscles are selected by God and placed in the body of Christ to fight any impurities that enter church doctrine.) The third line of defense is antibodies. Pg 573-574 (This would be the special unit in an army. Each soldier is specialized in a certain combat skill. So it should be in the church, God has specialists to combat impurities that get past the regular army.) But for general resistance we need to get the necessary amount of rest, proper diet, exercise. Pg 573

**Preventing disease** - Make sure food and water is clean and unspoiled. (Spiritual application - make sure the teaching you are receiving is truly what God is saying. This is done by making sure the teaching agrees with the entire Bible, not just one chapter.) Keep the garbage out side the camp. (Apply spiritually.) Avoid germs. Pg 600-601

**Insects** - (For spiritual use, insert lies and gossip) because of their small size, adaptability, and rapid rate of reproduction are among the worst pest to man. Pg 347 (Lies, because of their small size, adaptability and rapid rate of reproduction are among the worst cause of pestilence in the church.) Certain forms may suddenly appear in epidemic proportions, causing serious damage to shade trees, fruit trees, and crops. There are several measures of control employed to fight against them. 1. **quarantines** ( II

Thessalonians 3:14: And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. 2. **conservation** of natural enemies (truth - John 14:16-17: And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.) 3. **chemical control - insecticides** The most rapid results are obtained by chemical poisons. pg 347 (sword of the Spirit - Romans 6:6-7: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.)

I believe this study shows in vivid detail that **the body must work together, each giving their all, each explicitly obeying the head, each totally dependent on the Holy Spirit and each receiving the proper diet**, in order for it to be described as a healthy body. **This can be done because the same blood flows through the entire body, giving the necessary provisions.** (The blood of Christ)

This church will manifest when the spirit in the church is one of self denial and taking up the cross and following Him. It will happen when the church is willing to give up their life here in order to find the higher life. This church will happen when all the members of the body are truly bought back to God. The price has been paid.

Proverbs 16:6: **How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!**

Proverbs 24:3-4: **Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.**

(The wisdom and understanding I refer to is the truth about why Jesus came. He came to restore spiritual life to mankind. Romans chapters 6-8 explain it. He says in John 12:47-50, I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on Me should not abide in darkness. And if any man hear My words, and believe not, I judge him not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. He that rejecteth Me, **and receiveth not My words**, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should

speak. And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto Me, so I speak.

When the Gospel is presented, it must be made clear that the recipient is to renounce, that is, give up their ways, repent of them and turn to God's ways, which are the teachings of the Bible. The recipient must be made to understand that they are dying to their old way of life which is to obey the carnal nature and they are being born into a new life, one where they obey the Spirit of God.

When they repent and ask Jesus to come into their heart, they will receive a new heart; a heart to please God. It must be made clear that they are to learn to walk by that desire instead of the desires of the flesh or carnal nature. They must be made to understand that they are bought with a price, they are not their own. Someone said, 'we are not puppets'. No, but we are, upon being saved from sin and death, obedient children. It must be made clear that repentance brings about the empowerment to be obedient through the new heart and new nature.

"We are not perfect, just forgiven," can only accurately be stated by one who has truly been forgiven and if he is truly forgiven, he has truly repented of his ways and has turned to God's ways.)

© Sylvia Huffnagle