

Bereans Bible Institute
Module VIII – The Christian Assembly
Lesson 09 – ‘Fellowship’ & the Temple of God

I. Correct Biblical Terminology is necessary to understand the NT

A. ‘ekklesia’ means an assembly or gathering of the people - tangible.

B. ‘House of God’ refers to the family of sons and daughters, with God as Father

C. The ‘Body of Christ’ refers to the membership of truly redeemed people within a local assembly, in a covenant relationship with Jesus Christ.

1. Membership is through obedience to the Gospel – repentance + baptism (knowledge + action)

C. The ‘Temple of God’ – the local ‘body’ of Christ gathered in genuine unity around the teachings of Christ & the Apostles, where God chooses to DWELL among us by BREATH.

1. “walking in the light” = seeking to live according to the Apostles’ doctrine (knowledge + action).

2. Produces “fellowship” with God – God’s choosing to dwell among the assembly.

(1 John 1)

a. “Fellowship” is close communion (God’s Breath dwelling AMONG our assembly), NOT the status of salvation (God’s Breath dwelling IN the individual).

b. ‘Drinking into’ the common holy Breath (1 Cor. 12:12-14, 24-27)

1. John 14:16-18 holy Breath WITH and IN us

2. John 7:37-39 living water flowing in and out

3. Heb. 6:4 “partakers” (metochos: meta –with + echo –to hold)

To hold or share a common thing together

3. Our GOAL as a local assembly is to have FELLOWSHIP the God collectively, as the Temple of God, the Breath dwelling AMONG is.

a. Closer fellowship of the BODY with God dwelling among us will produce more FRUIT, answered prayers, because the POWER of God is present when God’s holy Breath is present.

II. Corruption of the Body drives away the united ‘fellowship’ with God and with one another.

A. Joshua 1:1-9 God’s promise to dwell among the Israelites

B. Joshua 7:1-12 One member can corrupt the whole body

C. 1 Cor. 5:1-13 The ‘assembly’ is exactly the same

1. v. 13 “remove out from among you the wicked (person)”

2. Josh. 7:13 “remove out from among you the wicked (thing)”

D. 2 Cor. 6:14- 7:1 The Temple of God & Idols

1. vs. 17 – come OUT FROM AMONG THEM ekklesia

E. 1 Cor. 3:16-17