

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE THE CHURCH



Lesson 3: The Seven Figures of the Church

- I. **The Head and the Body of Christ:** Jesus Christ is the head of His body, which is composed of all who have believed in Him and have been baptized by the Holy Spirit into Him—**1 Corinthians 12:12–31**.

- II. **The last Adam and His new creation:** The incarnate Son is the last Adam, Who imparts new life to those who are under the sentence of death caused by the first Adam—**1 Corinthians 15:45; Romans 5:12–21**.

	First Adam	Second Adam
Romans 5:15b	Death	Grace leading to life
Romans 5:16	Penal servitude	Justification
Romans 5:17	The reign of death	The reign of life

- III. **The Shepherd and His sheep:** The Savior gave His life for His people and sustains them in time and eternity—**John 10:1–30**.

- IV. **The Chief Cornerstone and the living stones:** Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone Who oversees how His people form God's living house—**Ephesians 2:19–22; 1 Peter 2:4–8**.

- V. **The Bridegroom and His bride:** The Savior sacrificially loves His people and is maturing us to be with Him in an eternal home He is preparing for us—**John 14:2–3; Ephesians 5:25–32**.

- VI. **The High Priest and His royal priesthood:** Jesus Christ is the High Priest over a royal priesthood, who continually offer sacrifices to the Father (cp. Hebrews 13:15–16)—**1 Peter 2:5–9**.

- VII. **The Vine and His branches:** The Lord Jesus is the sole source of life and fruitfulness in His people—**John 15:1–8**.