STAYING CONNECTED TO THE HEAD

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 2:18-19 Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God."

2 Corinthians **5:17** Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Romans 12:2b ...be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Philippians 2:5-7 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,

EXPOSITION

The metaphor used over thirty times in the New Testament is that of The Body of Christ (the Church) as compared to the human body. Christians are the individual members in a universal Body in which Jesus Christ serves as the Head. A likeness does exist between the human body and the Spiritual Body – a likeness that derives from common authorship: God – The Creator of both.

"...many nervous disorders – cerebral palsy for example – occur when synaptic channels below the level of the brain somehow clog up. Poisons, such as cocaine, botulinus, and atropine can also jam the chemical transmission across synapses. We have a theological word for poisons that affect the Body of Christ; sin. Sin steals into the intimate channel between the Head (Christ) and the members, interrupting communication and separating the cell from the higher authority that directs and coordinates its actions. The usefulness of a single cell requires unimpeded communication from above and an obedient response from below. Once severed, new pathways linking the mind and body do not establish themselves easily." (Brand)



The Power Comes From the Head

Spiritually, we can lose connection with the Head (Christ). Likewise, once a member of the Church loses connection with the Head, re-connecting with the Head and the Body spiritually can be a challenging process. Our own mind naturally dreads and rejects repentance of sin. The separation from our spiritual Head debilitates and discourages us spiritually, and the struggle is on! We need constant 'therapy'. "In neurophysiology as well as in spirituality – repeated acts of obedience strengthen the connections" (Brand).

APPLICATION

We are *new creatures* in constant need of *renewal of the mind*. We must train ourselves to consistently seek much time with Jesus through his Word so that we *may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect*. Be assured, you are not alone. We have the three-stranded cord of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit to help and strengthen us, and we have the fellowship of the church to give us perspective and help us stay connected to the Head.

Taken from <u>In His Image</u> by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey. Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI. (1984). Compiled by Rev. Ron Lively – MedicalMobilizers.org.