

CORPORATE SOLIDARITY

Corporate Solidarity or “Biblical Unity” is a concept that is more foreign to westerners. It basically means, ‘the one stands for the all’. Applied to the first man who was created, we find it expressed this way: “When God created Adam (Adam means ‘mankind’ in the original tongue), He created all mankind “in Adam”. He ‘breathed into his nostrils the *breath of lives*’ as the original Hebrew indicates. So, God created the whole human family when He created Adam. As the Bible clearly states, God created all nations that are upon the earth when Adam was created {Acts 17:26}. In other words, God saw in Adam a ‘fountain of life’. The life that every person is born with is the extension of Adam’s life, after the Fall. The New Testament describes this life by the Greek word *Bios*.⁵

Thus, when Adam sinned, the logical deduction is that “all mankind sinned in Adam” as Romans 5:12-17 profoundly unfolds. This can be only rightly understood from a ‘corporate unity’ position or ‘whole body’ understanding, {*corp* meaning body} i.e. the one stands for the all. Another way of looking at this concept is described in the words ‘*singular plurality*’—The Second Adam (singular) representing the human race (plurality) or saying it in the reverse, ‘*plural singularity*’—humanity as to be a unit in Him.

The divine, eternal life of Christ is called *Zoe*⁶ in the New Testament. At His incarnation, Jesus surrendered to the Father’s control this *Zoe* life (Philippians 2:5-7, the *kenosis* doctrine). Because of this voluntary surrender on Christ’s part, it enabled the Father to unite Christ’s *Zoe* life to the corporate ‘condemned’ *Bios* life of humanity that needed redeeming in the womb of Mary.⁷ This qualified Christ to legally become the second or last Adam, mankind’s representative and substitute (1 Corinthians 15:45).

In the Counsel of Peace (Zech.6:12,13), it was determined by the Godhead that the plan of redemption would need to be established on a secure, legal basis to be effective. This is why the description as given above re. the *bios* life and *zoe* life are so important corporately speaking. The Bible states that “God cannot deny Himself” (2 Tim.2:13), He must be true to Himself and operate in accordance with His own principle of justice. This was the only way Divinity to redeemed fallen humanity.

So, when Adam sinned, all men were condemned in Adam. When Christ, as the Second Adam came into humanity, God in essence put “all mankind” in Him. By His perfect life, Christ met the positive demands of the law *for us*, (i.e. Jesus worked out a perfect righteousness for every man, woman and child, at each level of development, not just for us, but *as us*.) Romans 5:19 clearly reveals that it is the “obedience of the One” that enables all who permit him “to make them perfect in all good work” (Heb.13:21). When He at last laid down His life at the cross, the

fallen condemned life of Adam (the whole human race) was executed (the second death). Thus, by His sacrificial death on the cross, Christ met the justice of the law *in our place*. In this way Jesus fulfilled the total demands of the law on man's behalf for righteousness (Matthew 5:17; Romans 10:4; 2 Corinthians 5:21). When Christ was crucified, as in the first Adam, we all were condemned (John 3:17); so in like manner in the Second Adam, all were justified (Rom 5:18), at least for a probationary period of time.

Therefore, in the resurrection of Christ, God gave the *Zoe* life of Christ to the human race, a new species of humanity came forth. When Christ ascended to heaven in our redeemed humanity, we (corporately) ascended with Him into the highest heaven.

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1. For example, note Luke 8:14; 1 John 2:16, where the word *life* is *Bios* in the original.
 2. For example, note John 1:4, 8:12 where the word *life* is *Zoe* in the original.
 3. In Ephesians 2:5,6, note the word *together* or *with* in this text; see also Hebrews 2:14-18; 4:15, it conveys the idea of 'uniting' which is what occurred at the incarnation. Christ assumed our humanity.

It is appropriate here to present this great undermined teaching of Scripture known as "Corporate Solidarity" or "Biblical Solidarity". In essence, this concept means 'the one stands for the all'. Applied to the first man who was created, we find it expressed this way: "When God created Adam (Adam means 'mankind' in the original tongue), He created all mankind 'in Adam'. He 'breathed into his nostrils the *breath of lives* as the original Hebrew indicates. So, God created the whole human family when He created Adam. As the Bible clearly states, God created all nations that are upon the earth when Adam was created {Acts 17:26}. In other words, God saw in Adam a 'fountain of life'. The life that every person is born with is the extension of Adam's life, after the Fall. The New Testament describes this life by the Greek word *Bios* (see for example, Luke 8:14; 1 John 2:16, where the word *life* is *Bios* in the original).

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This is the same humanity we all will inherit at the resurrection of the just, when this "mortal, must put on immortality" and this "corruption, put on in-corruption." What a glorious day that will be! (Romans 6:23). In so doing, God re-wrote the history of humanity objectively, creating a new humanity out of the old (2 Timothy 1:8-10).

This is God's supreme gift to mankind, made effective individually by faith. When this incredible good news for all mankind (Luke 2:10) so that when it is proclaimed with a loud cry into all the world for a witness it will become inexcusable for anyone to be lost (Matthew 24:14). Only then can the end come. May that day come soon.