Ephesians: A Fourfold Picture Of The Church
Eph. 3:9-11

Introduction:
A. The church is important to God - the Father.
   1. Eternally planned. (v. 11)
B. The church is important to Christ - His Son.
   1. Promised it. (cf. Matt. 16:18; Mk. 9:1)
C. The church is given in four-fold picture in Ephesians.

Discussion:
I. A BODY Under Christ Reconciled To God. (1:22,23; 2:16)
   A. A body subject to Christ is all things. (1:22,23)
   B. A body that is at peace (reconciled) with God.
      1. No reconciliation outside the church.
         a. To be saved is to be in church. (Acts 2:38,41,47; Eph. 5:23)
         b. To be "in Christ" is to be "in body" (1 Cor. 12:13; Rom. 6:4).
      2. No reconciliation in separate bodies.
         a. If so, why bother to break down "wall of division (partition)". (2:14-15).
         b. If so, the cross was in vain. (2:16)
C. A body that is at peace with itself.
   1. Peace or unity established. (2:14-18)
   2. Peace or unity maintained. (4:1-6)
      a. Not man made unity - but unity based on reconciliation to God.
      1. Spirit searched God's mind. (1 Cor. 2:10, 11).
      2. Spirit revealed to Apostle and prophets. (3:5).
      3. Apostle & prophets wrote it, we read it.
   B. It must rest on human wisdom. (cf. 1 Cor. 2:5)
      If can't read it, don't do it.
   A. By its existence.
   B. By its operation.
      1. God-ordained worship. (John 4:24)
      2. God-ordained structure. (Phil. 1:1).
      3. God-ordained work. (Eph. 4:12).
IV. A Glorious WIFE Married To A Loving Husband. (5:22-32).
   A. He loves her. (v. 25).
   B. He saves her. (v. 23).
   C. She obeys Him. (vs. 23,24).
   D. She honors Him in purity and chastity. (vs. 26,27)

Conclusion:
A. Are you a member of his body?
B. Are you a living stone in His building?
C. Are you a part of His called out assembly - the church?
D. Are you married to Him?