RECOGNIZING THE ONLY TRUE CHURCH

"One Body, One Spirit, One Hope of Our Calling, One Lord, One Faith & One Baptism" – Eph.4:2-6.

The unity of the church of Christ is clearly revealed in the New Testament. Though there is great variety in ability, naturally or acquired, yet the least as well as the greatest is a member of the Body, and all alike are vitally connected with Christ the Head. The figures used in the Bible all illustrate this unity, and, we may add, indivisibility. "One fold and one Shepherd," *John 10:16*. The vine and the branches, *John 15:1-4*. The temple and living stones, built on one foundation, *Eph. 2:20-22*, and One City, as "the bride, the Lamb's wife," *Rev. 21:9,10*.

Eph. 4:3-6— "Endeavouring to keep the UNITY of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (4) *There is* One Body, and One Spirit, even as ye are called in One Hope of your Calling; (5) One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, (6) One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all."

One Body refers to the "One True Church" — Col. 1:24, "Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church." Thus the Apostle states clearly that there is only ONE True Church in the Whole earth being established by God through His dear Son Jesus Christ who is also its Head! There is much comfort in the assurance this fact gives to all who have put on Christ. They are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal. 3:26-29.

To see and appreciate this unity and indivisibility would destroy sectarianism and endear Christians one to another. Sectarianism began to show itself in Paul's day and was condemned. "I am of Paul," and "I of Apollos," etc., was met by the question, "Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" *1 Cor. 1:10-13.* This is as much as to say: As Christ is not divided, ye should recognize no divisions, and call yourselves by no name but Christ. If it was contrary to the spirit of Christianity then, to say I am of Paul, or I am of Apollos, or I am of Peter, what can be said to justify men now in calling themselves "Calvinists," "Armenians," "Lutherans," "Wesleyans," or by *any* man-made name? If Paul were writing to the churches of the nineteenth century (was he not?), would he not call such things *carnal*, as when he wrote to Corinth? *1 Cor. 3:1-5*.

NOW there is this new issue of various churches each calling themselves part of the body, the One True Church! Common among men here are Catholicism, Anglican, Full Gospel, Seventh Day, Pentecostal, Life Line Ministries, PAG, so many names. NOTED clearly is that each of these organized systems has its own Faith deferring from another, varying methods of Baptism, deferring doctrines or Spirit, of cause with various understandings of the One Lord and One God! We shall endeavor to show that this is contrary to the Apostle's characterization of the one true Church in *Eph.4:2-6* as well as the one our Lord Jesus began. However, there might be a few individuals in these systems who are Believers but are greatly blocked from joining or recognizing the "Gate" to the True Church, and hence at best they remain Believers but not Members of the body!

We shall consider one aspect of *Eph. 4:2-6* — "One Hope of Our Calling" — showing that the True Body/Church has one hope as given them by God and through His Son Jesus Christ and it is different from the hope of many of these so-called churches/systems above, hence making them different from that which the Lord owns as his Body! As the faith of the Catholic church is different from that of Seventh Day, and also Baptism differs from that of Pentecostals even the Spirit, we ASK what about the Hope of their Calling? How different is their Hope from that stated in the Bible and the One true Hope of our Calling?

ONE HOPE OF OUR CALLING

In *Eph. 4:4* it states clearly that the True Body, the Church, has "One Hope of your Calling." We inquire, what is this One Hope? And if any one differs, does this disqualify him or the system from being in the True Church even claiming to be its least Member?

What is the Purpose of the calling of the Church? Why is the Church raised? Why did God ordain the raising of a Bride for His dear Son, the second Adam (*1 Cor. 15:45*)? Can God himself change His mind regarding this Hope?

Looking back in the days of the Jewish fathers, we remember God's dealings and promises to father Abraham, how even God made an Oath in certain matters. Let us consider one in *Gen.* 22:25-18 thus:

Gen. 22:15-18 — "And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, (16) And said, <u>By myself have I sworn</u>, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld your son, thine only son: (17) That in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; (18) <u>And in your seed shall all</u> <u>the nations of the earth be blessed;</u> because thou hast obeyed my voice."

It is evident, therefore, that the Oath of the Righteous is unalterable and no power in the whole Universe can change this as it was made by the Most Holy One! What is the OATH? That through the SEED of Abraham shall all the families (Nations) of the Earth be blessed!

Who then is this Seed of Abraham? The Apostles clearly identify this Seed of Promise thus:

Gal. 3:16 - "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ."

The Body, the Church, is associated and part of Christ hence together forming this Seed:

Gal. 3:27-29 — "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. (29) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Therefore, it is clear that the Purpose or Calling of the Church is to bless the rest of the families of the earth (Humanity who did not have the chance to be part of this seed, the true Church), giving them opportunities for everlasting life. To us the Scriptures clearly teach that the Seed, Christ (head and body), will be Priests of God after their Resurrection and will reign here on the Earth for 1,000 years.

Rev. 20:6 — "Blessed and holy *is* he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years."

Rev. 5:9-10 — "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; (10) <u>And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth</u>."

REIGN OF CHRIST – The SEED of Abraham:

These shall Reign here in the Earth as Kings and Priests of God for a 1,000 years! This Reign involves blessing the other People of the earth as they cannot be Priests to animals – goats, lions, dogs, fish. This is clearly stated — they will bless humanity and only after the Marriage of the Lamb of God or their union thus:

Rev. 22:17 — "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

We see clearly that after the Union of the Church with her Lord, the Marriage of the Lamb is accomplished, then they together will bless or call others and give them the "Waters of Life freely"!

Remember the Other False Calling, that the blessed true members of the Church go to heaven, and the rest who are not qualified automatically go to Hell or Purgatory, hence the earth remains empty and the rest are destroyed. Of course, this hope and calling is by another clever person (deceiver) but not by God, for God has clearly stated the work or purpose of His Church – to bless all the families of earth who are not part of the Church and that will be after Resurrection of all. Look at various churches' calling: if all unbelievers go to hell, and the Church goes to heaven, then to whom will the true Church teach or bless or give the "waters of life" freely? Will the Church with her Lord give "waters of life" to animals? Will the Church be Priests to goats, leopards, lions, and snakes? Who will they reign over here on the earth as Scriptures state?

The True Hope of our Calling is to be partners (Joint-heirs) with Jesus Christ in blessing all the families of the earth during a 1,000 year reign of Messiah, thus being Priests of God here on the earth, giving the "waters of life" to them and bringing everyone to the knowledge of Truth, and perfection!

If all unbelievers of this present time like those before Jesus' time are lost in hell, then there will be no need to give "waters of life," nor need for priests on the earth after resurrection. Hence, the Calling of God will become void — and that will never happen! The LORD guaranteed this service or blessing on the earth by the Seed of Abraham or Christ by an OATH:

Psa. 110:4 — "The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek."

CONCLUSION:

Therefore, we have seen in Scriptures that the One True Church/Body has One Hope of their Calling, hence any other hope is false and proves one has never known nor come to this Body, the Church of the Living God! One can readily see which one is a false Church/system based on this aspect only. Due to the multiplicity of so-called Christian churches today, the LORD foresaw the need to ensure the blessed few with guarantees that our faith should be ironclad, unmovable, and hence He made Oaths accordingly.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE SAVED?

The Lord foresaw this situation of His genuine People in various manmade churches, sometimes referred to in Scriptures as Babylon. The Lord has a simple call to such ones thus:

Rev. 18:2-4 — "And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of

devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. (3) For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. (4) And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, <u>Come out of her, my people</u>, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

One fleeing needs to get the Truth on various matters and Bible subjects, hence a diligent search for the Truth. The LORD has designed His Truth for the Sanctification of His People, to be completely sealed in their foreheads and hands. Please take the opportunity offered for a Free Bible Study Course by correspondence, and do not hesitate to contact us.

LUGANDA Translation:

OKWAWULA EKKANISA ENTUFU

Omubiri Gumu, Omwoyo Omu, Okuyitibwa Kwaffe Kumu, Mukama Omu, Okukkiriza Kumu, Okubatizibwa Kume, ne Katonda Omu – Abef.4:2-6.

Obumu bw'Ekkanisa bw'ogerwako nnyo mu Ndagano empya mu Baibuli. Ekkisibo kimu n'Omusumba omu (Yokkana 10:16), Omuzabibu n'Amatabi gagwo (Yokkana 15:1-4), Yekkalu emu n'amayinja agazimbibwa ku musingyi gumu (Abbef. 2:20-22), ne Ekibuga kimu era Omugole w'Omwana gw'Endiga.

Abaefeso 4:4-6 – "Omubiri guli gumu, n'Omwoyo omu, era nga nammwe bwe mwayitibwa mu kusuubira okumu okw'okuyitibwa kwammwe; Mukama waffe omu, Okukkiriza kumu, Okubatiza kumu, Katonda omu, ayita mu byonna, era ali mu byonna".

Omubiri gumu – ategeeza "Ekkanisa Emu entufu" – Abakkolosaayi 1:24 – "Kaakano nsanyuse mu bibonoobono byange ku lwammwe, era ntuukiriza ebibulako mu kulaba ennaku kwa Kristo mu mubiri gwange olw'omubiri gwe, ye Kkanisa". Wano Omutume Paulo, akakasa okubaawo kw'Ekkanisa emu mu nsi yonna, nga erina okukkiriza n'okubatiza kumu ! Era gano, mazima era obukakafu eri bonna abayingira mu Kristo – Abaggalatiya 3:26-29.

Obumu buno bujjawo engyawukana mu bakkiriza. Engyawukana za tandika edda-- ng'abamu bagamba nti ndi wa Paulo, abalala Apolo – Paulo kw'okubabuza nti Yesu mugabanemu ? Bw'ekityo, bwa omu era nga ye Mukama waffe, tuli omu – 1 Abak.1:10-13. Tulaba ekiriwo kati nga kiringa omutima ogwo Paulo gwe y'agana mu Kkanisa wabula nga kyikyukira ddala, era kibi nnyo! Tulaba nga ebibinja bya manyi nnyo – abamu ba Katoliki, abalala ba ngilikani, abalala ba Seveniside, abalala ba lokole ba Pentikoti, ebibinja bingi nnyo; Ekikulu nti birina abakkiriza abengyawulo – Enzikkiriza zawukkana, okubatiza kwawukana, n'omwoyo ayawuukana, so nga ne Katonda Omu ne Yesu omu babategeera bulala ! Tugenda kuffuba okubalaga nti bino bikontagana ne by'Awandiikibwa mu Abaefeso 4:2-6!

Kale amakkanisa mangi galina enzikkiriza zanjawulo, n'okubatiza kwa njawulo, naye tubuza nti zonna ntufu oba eriwa entufu ? Kuba bino bikontana n'Omutume kyagamba mu Abaefeso 4.1-6. Tulaba mu kyawandiikibwa ekyo nga Ekkanisa oba bonna abali mu Kristo balina esuubi mu Okuyitibwa kwabwe kumu. Ekibuzo kili nti zonna ekkanisa ezo zirina okuyitibwa okwogerwako okumu mu baibuli? Bo abakkiriza mu makkanisa ago balina esuubi ly'okuyitibwa okwo ?

ESUUBI LY'OKUYITIBWA KW'EKKANISA !

Mu Abaefeso 4:4, kilabika lwatu nti Ekkanisa emu entufu elina Esuubi limu ely'Okuyitibwa kwabwe era singa tulaba Esuubi ly'okuyitibwa mu Baibuli, ekyo kitumala okwawula abeyita ekkanisa ya Kristo nga si bbo (oba amakkanisa amafu)! Ekibuzo ekisoka – Lwaki Katonda y'ateekawo Ekkanisa ? Omugaso gw'Ekkanisa ng'Omugole wa Yesu ki ? Lwaki Katonda y'ateesa okufunira omutabaniwe (Yesu), omukyala ?

Tulaba edda nti Mukama Katonda yakolagana nnyo n'abakadde ba Yisirayiri era n'abawa ebisubizo bingi, era n'okwelayirira mu byo. Ekimu ku byo kye tulaba mu Oluberyeberye 22:15-18. – "Ne malayika wa Mukama n'ayita Ibulayimu omulundi ogw'okubiri nga ayima mu Ggulu, Nayogera nti Nneerayidde nzekka, bw'ayogera Mukama, kubanga okoze bw'otyo, n'otonnyima mwana wo, omwana wo omu: Okukuwa omukisa n'akuwanga omukisa, n'okwongera naakwongerangako ezzadde lyo ng'emmunyenye ez'omu ggulu, ng'omusenyu oguli ku ttale ly'enyanja; era ezzadde lyo balirya omulyango ogw'abalabe baabwe; <u>era mu zzadde lyo amawanga</u> <u>gonna ag'omu nsi mwe galiweerwa omukisa</u>; kubanga owulidde eddoboozi lyange".

Tulaba nti Ekirayiro kino ky'Oyo atula mu butuukirivu era tewali ayinza okukikyusa ku nsi ne mu ggulu! Ekisuubizo kino eky'endagaano, eri Ezadde Iya Ibulayimu ky'ekiruwa? Nti "mu Zzadde Iya Ibulayimu, Amawanga gonna ag'omu nsi (Abantu) mwe galiweerwa omukisa! Kale Ezzade Iya Ibulayimu Iy'eririwa ?

Omutume Paulo, ategeeza Iwatu Ensigo/ Ezzadde lino mu – Abaggalatiya 3:16 – "Ebyasuubizibwa byagambibwa Ibulayimu n'omuzzukulu we. Tayogera nti N'eri abazzukulu, nga bangi, naye ng'omu nti *N'eri omuzzukulu wo, ye Kristo*".

Ekkanisa egabana wamu nga omubiri ogumu ogwa Kristo – Abaggalatiya 3:27,29 – "Kubanga mwenna abaabatizibwa okuyingira mu Kristo, mwayambala Kristo.... Era mmwe bwe muli aba Kristo, *kale muli Zzadde Iya Ibulayimu, era muli basika ng'okusubiza bwe kwali*".

Kyeraga lwatu nti Ekigendererwa ky'Ekkanisa oba omugaso gwayo, kwe kuwa Amawanga gonna (abataafuna mukisa kubeera Kkanisa ya Katonda) Omukisa; Era Kristo (Omutwe n'Omubiri/ Ekkanisa) bakufuga wano ku Nsi oluvanyuma lw'okuzukira kw'Ekkanisa nga ebyawandiikibwa bwe bikakasa mu – Okubikk. 20:6 "Baweredwa omukisa abafu abalina omugabo mu kuzukkira kw'olubereberye, okufa okw'okubiri tekulina buyinza ku bbo, banabera ba Kabonna ba Katonda wamu ne Kuristo era banafugiranga wamu emyaka lukumi". Okubikk. 5:9-10 ".....n'atufuula ba Kabaka era ba Kabonna ba Katonda, era bakufuga ku Nsi".

OKUFUGA KWA KRISTO – EZZADDE lya Ibulayimu:

Nti Kristo wa kufuga wano ku nsi nga ba Kabaka era Bakabonna okumala emyaka lukumi. Kino kya kubaawo oluvanyuma lw'okuzukkira era n'Embaga y'Omwana gw'Endiga. Obanga Ekkanisa (Omugole) ne Bba (Yesu) bakufuga nga Bakabonna ba Katonda ku nsi, kale banaba ba Kabonna ba nte oba mbuzi? nkoko oba misota? Kuba enjigiriza egamba nti ekkanisa egenda mu ggulu, abasigadewo mu geyena, kiraga nti tewali kigendererwa ky'okuyitibwa kwe Kkanisa! Ebyawandiikibwa bikakasa nti Ezadde oba Ekkanisa wamu ne Bba wayo bakuwa omukisa abantu bonna abalala mu nsi, kino kye kisubizo era omugaso gwe Zzadde lino.

Bwe tusoma mu Kubikk.22:17 "Omwoyo n'Omugole bayita nti jjangu, n'awulira ayita nti jjangu, bwatyo alina enyotta atwale AMAZI ag'obulamu buwa"! Kino kikakasa nti oluvanyuma lw'embaga y'Omwana gw'Endiga, Abagole mbobi ba kuwa abantu Omukisa gw'okufuna obulamu obutagwawo, g'emazi og'obulamu. Bano tebayita nte oba mbuzi oba misota oba byenyanja nga engyigiriza enkyamu bweri nti abantu bonna bagenda mu geyeena abatasobola kugenda mu ggulu ! Wabula bayita bantu, kye kirayiro kya Katonda mu Olub. 22:18, ne Zzabuli 110:4 !

Kale amakkanisa oba abakkiriza bonna abalina ekigendererwa ekirara oba okuyitibwa okulala, kabonero akalaga nti tebaberanga mu Kkanisa ntufu songa n'omulyango oguyingira tebagulabanga nakatono !!! Kino, ky'ekiri nti essubi ly'okuyitibwa kw'Ekkanisa entufu liri limu! Mukama n'ayongeera n'alayira ku nsonga eno mu Zabuli 110:4 -- Nti Ekkanisa ne Bba wayo banabera Bakabonna ba Katonda eri abantu oluvanyuma lw'okuzukkira !

MUKOLEMUTYA OKULOKOLEBWA –

Mukama n'ategeeza nti mu dduke, mufulume amakkanisa ago gemuzudde nti tegali mu kuyitibwa kwa Mukama, nga ne baibuli egayita babuloni (bakavuyo kangi) – Okubikk.18:1-4 "..... kigudde kigudde ekibuga Babuloni, kuba kifuuse ekisulo kye ebinyonyi ebibi, n'amawanga gonna ne gatamira omwenge gw'obwezi bwakyo..... Mukifulumemu abantu bange muleme okugabana ku mpera y'ekibi kyakyo".

Kale nga bwetulabye wagulu, kyetagisa okufuna n'okumanya amazima aga buli kintu okusinga engyigiriza entufu oba ey'amazima.

Amazima Katonda yagawa okusobola okulongosa n'okutukuza abamukkiriza (Yokkana 17:17) era n'okutekebwako akabonero mu byenyi by'abakkiriza ne kumikono gyabwe! Wetwalire Omusomo gwa baibuli nga osomera ewuwo ate nga gwabwerere. Tutukirire ku ndagiriro eri Katabo kano!