

## The Three Spheres in Ephesians 4

### (1) "The Body"

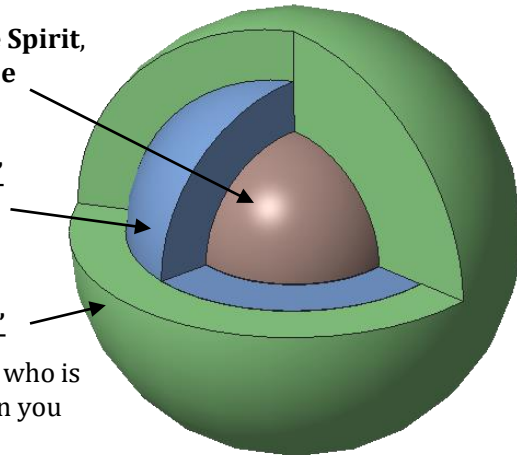
V. 4 There is **one Body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling;

### (2) "The Christian Profession"

V. 5 **One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism**,

### (3) "The Universe in Creation"

V. 6 **One God and Father of all**, who is above **all**, and through **all**, and in you all.



|                                      | (1)<br>"The Body of Christ"                            | (2)<br>"Professing Christianity"                  | (3)<br>"Universal Creation"      |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>United By...</b>                  | The Holy Ghost - membership in the Body (I Cor. 12:13) | Profession of Christ (Baptism)                    | Membership in Creation (Gen. 1)  |
| <b>Composed of...</b>                | True Believers - Jews and Gentiles (Eph. 3:6)          | All who Profess the Name of Christ (II Tim. 2:20) | Every Living Person (Acts 17:28) |
| <b>The House in the aspect of...</b> | God's Building (Eph. 2:20)                             | The Great House (II Tim. 2:20)                    | The Universal House (Heb. 3:4)   |

## Religions, Christian Denominations, and the "Ground of Gathering"

| Fellowship   | Description  |
|--|--|
| <b>A (Islam)</b>   | A religion entirely unassociated with Christianity. <u>No part</u> of it exists within either circle (2) or circle (1) because followers of Islam are unbelievers and do not profess Christ as Lord. This fellowship, or "table", is not according to scripture.   |
| <b>B (Catholicism)</b>   | A religion of Christian profession entirely within circle (2) because they profess Christ, but only a <u>small</u> remnant actually within circle (1) {See Rev. 2:24}. This table is not according to scripture.   |
| <b>C (Methodists)</b>  | A segment of Christendom. It is entirely within circle (2) because they profess Christ, but only <u>partly</u> within circle (1) {See Rev. 3:1}. This table is not according to scripture.   |
| <b>D (Baptists)</b>  | A segment of Christendom entirely within circle (2) because they profess Christ, and mostly within circle (1). This table does not include <u>all</u> of circle (1) and is not according to scripture.   |
| <b>E (Independent Church)</b>  | A small segment of Christendom entirely within circle (2) and within circle (1) but does not include <u>all</u> of circle (1). This table is not according to scripture because they have for their ground of gathering a circle smaller than the Body of Christ.  |
| <b>Scriptural Fellowship</b><br>- a fellowship as wide as, but no wider than, circle (1) | A scriptural fellowship <u>is circle (1) itself!</u> A scriptural fellowship operates as the practical expression of the Body of Christ. It is a circle that is open enough to embrace the whole Body of Christ, yet small enough to exclude any non-believer. The believers who practically enjoy this fellowship are gathered on the "ground" (basis) that there is one Body. There can only be "one place" because for there to be more than one would be to deny the unity of the Body. This table is according to scripture and it is the Lord's Table. |

