Doctrine of the Church and Her Biblical Images

1. Sheep and Shepherd.
   - Sheep. John 10:27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:
   - Shepherd. John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

2. Bride and Bridegroom.
   - Bride. Revelation 21:9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.
   - Bridegroom. Mark 2:18 And the disciples of John and of the Pharisees used to fast: and they come and say unto him, Why do the disciples of John and of the Pharisees fast, but thy disciples fast not?

   - Stones. 1 Peter 2:5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.
   - Chief Corner Stone. Ephesians 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; 20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; 21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: 22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

   - Branches. John 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.
   - Vine. John 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

5. Kingdom and the King.
   - Kingdom. Colossians 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:
   - King. 1 Timothy 6:14 That thou keep this commandment without spot, unreproveable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:
6. Priests and High Priest.

   Priests. 1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

   Special Note.

   The idea of the church being a royal priesthood is based on the covenantal language once made with national Israel.

   Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

7. Body and Head.

   - Body. 1 Corinthians 12:18 But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.

   - Head. Colossians 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.