

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

The Lord's Supper

Last time...Jesus foretold of Peter's denial and the abandonment by all 11 of His disciples

This time...The Lord's Supper aka Communion is instituted by Jesus

The scene is still the large upper room during the Passover meal
We start in...John 6

John 6:27-64

The Setting:

2nd year of Jesus' ministry (in Galilee)
In the synagogue at Capernaum (ministry HQ town)

With all Jesus' miraculous healings, casting out demons, and feeding tens of thousands with a few fish and a few loaves of bread, a great multitude of people are following Him

v26-27 The context for the teaching that follows: spiritual food vs physical food
 Spiritual food is to be desired more

Just as the Word of God is "More to be desired *are they* than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: *and* in keeping of them *there is* great reward." (Ps 19:10-11)

v28-29 The Father's expectation of man: believe on His Son Jesus Christ...
 to eat God's spiritual food

v30-31 The people want a sign so they can/will believe; they think seeing is believing
 "What can You do? Like Moses and manna (physical food) for example."

v32-33 Manna from heaven was a shadow, a type, of God's True Bread – Jesus
 Jesus is the life-giving Bread of God

John 1:4a In Him was life

v34-35 I AM (Ex 3:14) the Bread of Life...the ever-sustaining food of eternal life,
 the only food that satisfies forever

- v36 seeing is NOT believing, believing is seeing...
 they are not “eating” God’s True Bread in their very midst
- v37-40 True Bread came down from heaven...
 Jesus came down from heaven...
 Jesus is True Bread, the life-giving Bread of God
- v40 “seeth” = “discern, consider, fully understand”
- v41-42 the Pharisees understand what Jesus is plainly saying but they do not see/discern
 and they do not believe, are not “ingesting” His words
- v43-51 eat = ingest = believe
 As the Kinsman-Redeemer and Messiah, Jesus is going to give His life to redeem
 the life of whosoever believes (John 3:16)
 He is speaking of spiritual things not physical things
- v52 the Pharisees are “stuck” on what they can see with their eyes...physical things
 they cannot see/discern with their hearts the spiritual things of which Jesus is
 speaking
- v53-58 eat, drink = believe
 dwells in = ingest
- Matt 5:17, including Lev 17:10-14...so Jesus is speaking figuratively, not literally
- physical food cannot save from death, and only temporarily relieves hunger
 spiritual food can save from death and satisfies forever
- Jesus is God’s True Bread, the Father’s eternal life-giving food
- v59-60 a hard saying and the multitude vanishes, no longer follows Jesus (v66)
 they cannot see/discern, they do not believe
- v61-64 The flesh goes the way of all the earth – death – regardless of how much food is
 eaten
 The spirit is eternal, made alive by believing in Jesus, the spiritual food.
 The Bread of (eternal) Life
- Plainly said: Jesus’ words are spirit (life-giving spiritual food)

Now, with that background, let’s move forward to the last day of His ministry...

Matt 26:26-29

v26 bread...My body:

As Jesus and His 11 clean disciples (the “leaven” having been purged) are eating their Passover meal, The Bread of Life/God’s True Bread from heaven

- took bread...unleavened (no leaven in the house for Passover)
- blessed it
 - thanked His Father for it
 - or
 - called the blessings of His Father upon it
- broke it
- gave it to the 11

- Take...get a hold of, accept...discern/consider
- eat...ingest, believe
- this is My body...obviously, figuratively so
 - The unleavened bread is a figure of His body
 - The broken bread is His (soon to be) broken body

v27-28 the cup...Drink...My blood...new testament...remission of sins:
Then Jesus

- took the cup...holding the fruit of the vine, unleavened grape juice
 - yeast is a leavening agent yielding fermentation (change of nature)
- gave thanks
- gave it to them

- Drink...ingest, believe
- all of it...no leftovers to be thrown away

- this is My blood...obviously again, figuratively so
 - The unleavened juice is a figure of His life
 - Lev 17:11 For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul

- of the new testament
 - “fresh”
 - covenant/contract/agreement
 - and
 - will (Last Will and Testament)

 - how man must now approach God

○ **Heb 8**

- v1-2 things spoken (Ch 7):
 - another and unchangeable priest/priesthood
 - a better testament

we have a High Priest sitting on the right hand of the Father in heaven, minister of the true tabernacle built by God and not man... Jesus Christ

- v3-5 like every high priest, He offers a sacrifice (Ch 7:26-27)
- v6-12 Jesus has a more excellent ministry than Aaron & sons and He is the mediator of a better/new covenant established on better promises...Rom 10:4, Jer 31:31-33
- v13 the old covenant (the Law) is not how we approach God now, the new covenant is

○ **Heb 9**

- v1-10 the first/old covenant was serviced in a worldly tabernacle by Aaron & sons... an imperfect figure
- v11-15 the second/new covenant was serviced in a heavenly tabernacle by our High Priest, Jesus Christ...the perfect true our High Priest's sacrifice was...Himself
- v16-17 a testament has no authority until the testator dies; then the testament takes effect
- v18-22 the old testament was consecrated by blood; there was no forgiveness of sin without the (frequent) shedding of blood
- v23-28 the new testament is consecrated by blood, the one and only one sacrifice of our High Priest of Himself, in whose blood is the forgiveness of sin
keyword: once
NOT at every Communion service
(Mass) per false teachers

- which is shed...poured out, violent death
- for many...sacrificial for others, the Father's sin sacrifice for sinners
- for the remission of sins...pardon, forgiveness, John 3:30

v29 no drink henceforth...new with you in My Father's kingdom:

Jesus will not "commune" in this way with His disciples again until an appointed day in His Father's kingdom, the kingdom of God, His Mil Reign on earth when He returns to earth

i.e. this communion is "To Be Continued"

In the meantime, the unleavened fruit of the True Vine must be gathered
(John 15:1-8)

Bread and grape juice...Body and Blood

As in John 6, Jesus is speaking metaphorically, figuratively,
using plain figures of speech

- "This is My body"
- "This is My blood"
- Passing out both to the 11

Body and Blood...Jesus is 100% Man, our Kinsman-Redeemer and High Priest

Rom 5:6-21

v6-8 the Holy died for the unholy, Love died for haters

v9-10 enemies reconciled to Father by the death of His Son
(our High Priest),
children saved from wrath by His life (John 5:24)

v11 by the sacrifice (body and blood) of Jesus Christ as our
substitute, we have at-one-ment with God

v12-14 by one man (Adam) came sin and death

the 1st man was a figure/"look alike" of the 2nd Man
(John 1:14) to come in due time

v15 by one man (1st) came the offense and its wages of death
unto all
by one Man (2nd) came a free gift, the grace of God

v16 by one man (1st) comes condemnation and judgment
by one Man (2nd) comes no condemnation and justification

v17 by one man (1st) death reigns by the work of
his unrighteousness
by one Man (2nd) Life reigns by the gift of
His righteousness

v18-19 by one man's (1st) disobedience all men are condemned
by one Man's (2nd) obedience many (whosoever will
believe) are made righteous

v20-21 the old covenant revealed sin, the new covenant covers sin
the work of one Man (2nd) is greater than the work of
one man (1st)

1 Tim 2:5 For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and
men, the man Christ Jesus

Luke 22:17-20

v17-18 divide it among yourselves:

In Luke's account we get the fruit of the vine...
the unleavened juice of crushed grapes...
being divided up before the elements of the Lord's Supper are distributed

v19-20 bread...given...cup...shed:

Additional info:

"This do in remembrance of Me."

Why?

Mankind has a notoriously bad memory

Ps 106:21 They forgot God their saviour, which had done great things
in Egypt

The celebration of the Lord's Supper is to help us remember ie not forget
Who saved us from the bondage of sin and death and how He did it

The language is obvious figurative and NOT literal

Broken unleavened bread symbolizes His broken body

Poured out unleavened juice symbolizes His poured out blood

This **cup** is the **new testament** in My blood, which is shed for you

e.g. “This is my wife.” (showing a photo of Monica)
It is not literally Monica because she is right there
This is a likeness of her person.

The unleavened bread and the unleavened juice are symbols, figures/”look alikes”
They do not become the literal body and blood of Jesus Christ

1 Cor 11:23-29

v23-24 regarding the bread, as in Luke 22:19

v25 regarding the juice, as in Luke 22:19

v26 when we eat the bread and drink the juice (ingest, believe) we
proclaim/declare/preach/teach the Lord’s voluntary,
sacrificial death...until He comes to earth the 2nd time,
when He will drink it new with us in the Father’s
kingdom/His Mil Reign

v27 unworthily = irreverently, casually, unmindfully...not believing

v28 essential “element”: self-examination

v29 God is not mocked, God is not fooled

The Lord’s Supper: Communion, partaking in common

- a memorial...
 - looking back on the Cross of Jesus Christ
 - a forward look to Jesus Christ’s 2nd Coming to earth
- spiritual communion of the believers that binds us in fellowship

Acts 2:42 they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and
in breaking of bread, and in prayers

Jesus Christ

- The Living Word of God
- God’s True Bread that came down from heaven
- God’s eternal life-giving food that satisfies hunger and thirst forever

binds us together in fellowship

Fellowship...being in one with other believers, abiding in the True Vine

- Sunday morning...in person vs FB Live if you are near and able
- Tuesday night...men/women, soon to separate again into Men and Women
- Wednesday night...soon to start again
- Thursday night...Youth
- Marriage Enrichment
- Saturday nights...Young Adult

The Word of God (Jesus) is the very center of all those opportunities to be bound together as a fellowship

What keeps you from coming and being a part of the Body of Christ in fellowship?

The flesh, the world, and the devil will distract, discourage, deceive...
and supply an endless number of excuses to stay away

But to stay away is to stay away from eternal life-giving food that satisfies hunger and thirst

Busy-ness is attacking our fellowship...lives overflowing with worldly things to do
Value our fellowship...spiritual fellowship!

Understand/discern that the opportunities to fellowship will

- mature your walk with the Lord
- encourage you in the Lord (1 Sam 30:6)

Do not choose to be disconnected, unplugged, isolated...

that is exactly where the destroyer of men's souls wants you to be,
it is absolutely NOT where the Lord wants you to be

If you are hungry and thirsty, and the world has not been able to satisfy your hunger and thirst,
come to Jesus.

Come now – ask Jesus for the eternal life-giving, True Bread of God

Ask Him to come live in your heart

And celebrate the Lord's Supper with the children of God...and come to the opportunities to
be bound/strengthened in fellowship with Jesus Christ and other believers

[Keith lead Communion]