

## COMMUNION SERVICE MESSAGE

1/2/2011

1Co 11:23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

1Co 11:24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

1Co 11:25 After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me.

1Co 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

1Co 11:27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

1Co 11:28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.

1Co 11:29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

1Co 11:30 For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

1Co 11:31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

1Co 11:32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

1Co 11:33 Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another.

**The Lords supper is not just an historical fact, or a monument to walk around and admire, but it is a supper to have fellowship with a living Saviour as our hearts reach out to him in faith.**

1. Apostolic Churches in Paul's day recognized three ordinances established by Jesus Christ (Baptism; Foot washing; The Lord's Supper, which is also called communion).

1Co 10:16 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?

2. Jesus took the cup and the loaf- the ingredients of a common meal in that day- and transformed them into a meaningful spiritual experience for believers.
3. It is very important to come to the communion with a prepared heart. It is also important not to partake of communion in a light hearted manner.
4. Because the Corinthian Church had been sinning in their observing of the Lord's Supper, God had disciplined them. "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep (spiritually unprepared to meet the Lord)
5. The Lord's Supper gives us an opportunity for spiritual growth and blessings, if we approach it in the right attitude.
6. What we must do if the Lord's Supper is to bring blessing and not chastening?

### **FIRST WE MUST LOOK BACK**

1. We must look back to Calvary: The broken bread reminds us of Christ's body, given for us; and the cup reminds us of His shed blood. It is a remarkable thing that Jesus wants His followers to remember His death, most of us try to forget how those we loved died.
2. Why did Jesus want us to remember his death? Because everything we have as Christians centers in that death.
3. First thing we must do is to remember that He died that we could live. It is not the life of our Lord, or His teachings that will save sinners, but His death. Therefore we must remember why He died: Christ died for our sins; He was our substitute.

1Co 15:1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

1Co 15:3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

1Co 15:4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

1Pe 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

1Pe 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

4. Jesus surrender His life into the hands of wicked men and died to demonstrate His love toward us.

Rom 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Rom 5:9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

## **SECOND, WE SHOULD LOOK AHEAD**

1. We observe the Lord's Supper "till He comes." The return of the Lord is the blessed hope of the Church and the individual born again believer.
2. Jesus did not only die, but he arose again and ascended to heave; and one day He shall return to take us to heaven.
3. Today we are not all that should be (we have these mortal bodies); but one day we shall see Him, "we shall be like Him."

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

Heb 9:28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

## **THIRD, WE SHOULD LOOK WITHIN**

1. **Paul did not say that we had to be worthy to partake of the Supper, but only that we should partake in a worthy manner.**
2. **Scotland Pastor**: “take it, my dear, it’s for sinners”
3. to participate in a worthy manner: We must examine our own hearts, judge our sins, and confess them and forsake them before the Lord.
4. To come to the table of the Lord with unconfused sin in our lives is to be guilty of the Christ’s body and blood, for it was sin that nailed Him to the cross.
5. If we do not deal with the sin of our life then we are chastened of the Lord? His correction is His love toward us to save us.

### **FINALLY, WE SHOULD LOOK AROUND US**

1. Not in order to criticize each other, but discern the Lord’s body: The word discern the Lord’s body has a dual meaning.
  - a. To discern the meaning and application of His death
  - b. To promote unity and Love within the body
2. The Lord’s Supper is a Family Meal, and the Lord of the family desires that His Children love one another and care for one another. It is impossible to be a true Christian to get closer to Jesus while at the same time he is separated for his follower believers.

1Jn 4:11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

1Jn 4:12 No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.