

# COMMUNION SERVICE

TABERNACLE OF PRAISE – APRIL 17, 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.

1. **The Same Night He was betrayed:** There was no time for anything except what was most significant. Christ knew from the time He entered into the world the purpose for which He was here. Now coming to a close of His ministry!
  - a. **The importance of us partaking of the Lord's Supper** without our minds closed from the outside world, violates its purpose. To eat the bread irreverently, without recognizing – remembering anew what it really means, violates its sacred principle.
  - b. **There is nothing “cheap” about our salvation.** One of the reasons the Lord ordained this Supper is that each time we partake we are to relive in

memory the sacred cost involved in our redemption. It is a serious thing to make “unsacred” that which God has decreed to be “Sacred” By violating sacred things; we bring upon our lives the judgment of God.

2. We must do as Jesus said: “This do in remembrance of me”. Most of the bible was not written to the unconverted, but rather to people who have already believed.

1Co 5:7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

1Co 5:8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

**The Paschal lamb was extremely symbolic. It was to be:**

- (1) Free from all blemish
- (2) shut up for four days for careful scrutiny (Jesus examined by His contemporaries)
- (3) Killed by those who would be protected by its blood
- (4) Blood sprinkled on doorposts, and
- (5) Not to be sprinkled on the threshold - not to be trodden under feet.

3. As Christ gave thanks over the cup: We also must give thanks to God for the precious blood that redeemed us.
  - a. His blood is the blood of the New Testament of covenant. That is, the blood put God’s “New Covenant” (Or “New Will”) into affect.
  - b. Thus, in the Body of Christ and through His blood even those who are afar off from God can be brought nigh – those who were not a people can become God’s people. And fellow citizen with the saints and brought right into the family of God.
4. The Blood of the New Covenant: Brings a remission; forgiveness; pardon and relief of our sins. Our guilt is removed and our punishment borne by Him so we will never have to bare it.

**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.

5. **The Lord's Supper helps us to remember the meaning of Christ's death and the promise of His second coming:** It is a reminder that we have entered into a binding covenant with Jesus.
  - a. **The elements of Communion speak of God's** great love for us and are intended to motivate us to complete dedication to Him. And helps us check our love and devotion to Him in the light of His sacrifice for us.
  - b. **External forms have to place in communion:** It must be hollowed, with a spirit of communion with Jesus.

### **THE BREAD**

1. In the olden days the feet of animals walked around and around on rocky floor, treading out the grain from chaff, separating the worthless from the precious grain. More pressure was to come. The grain must pass through heavy rollers that exert terrible pressure until the grain is broken up, pressed into flour. After the pressure comes the mixing until it becomes dough. Then, it is that the heat of the oven that finished loaves of bread. It is then taken and eaten and **gives Life!**
  - a. **Pressure and heat are a necessary process through which the grain goes through to be made suitable for food.**
2. **Bread is a picture of pressure, heat, suffering and agony.** It is a picture of tension, stress, and affliction. **“THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU”** In Gethsemane, at Pilate's Judgment hall, and on Calvary, Christ's body was crushed and broken. It was ground under the wheels of pressures, consumed in flames of sacrifice.

### **THE GRAPES**

1. The path of the loaded vine and the grape harvest with its precious fruit bursting with sweetness, to the cup is a path of suffering and pressure. The grapes are torn from their place on the vine to and placed in the winepress – a large vat, where bare feet of people crushed the grapes and squeezed the precious juice until it trickled out at the lower side of the winepress. The fruit is pressed

beyond measure, squeezed, until its life expires. The juice of the grape or the “fruit of the vine” was extracted through pressure. What a fitting picture of the precious redeeming blood of Jesus Christ. Jesus lifted the Passover Cup and said, “THIS IS MY BLOOD, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU”

### **WE MUST INTERNALIZE CHRIST**

- 1. Jesus can become closer than our hands and feet, nearer than our breath, and sweeter than a kiss. He desires to live within us.**
2. When we partake of the Lord's supper we internalize our experience.
3. When we partake of the fruit of the vine and the bread, we take it into our mouth and swallow it. The liquid enters our body, is assimilated by our human system and becomes a part of our life and being. It becomes a close and intimate part of us. That is exactly what Jesus wants to become to everyone of us. **He wants to enter into us and become a part of us- to dwell in us.**

### **SELF EXAMINATION**

1. The word examination, means to “to prove or, to test oneself”
2. A Student is tested by examination, a soldier is judged by battle, an athlete is assessed by a race or an event. **The Christian is tested as he comes to the Lord's Table.**
3. “If we Judge ourselves we will not be judged” Spiritual insight is realizing where we stand before God and how we can correct any shortcomings.
4. One of the rewards of partaking of the Lord's Table is opening our eyes of understanding and seeing ourselves as God sees us. “Some are sick and weak, and some have died because they have not discerned the Lord's Body. Actions affect the total life of a person.
5. WE need this deep examination at the Lord's Table to, so we can make the changes that need to be made.

