

The Lord's Supper – An Act of Worship

Scripture Text: Luke 22:7

Every Sunday, Christians all over the World assemble to remember the Gospel – death, burial, resurrection – of Jesus, I Cor. 15:3-4

Luckily for us, Jesus specified how he wanted us to remember Him. If he had said jump up on our left foot and high-five, we would have. However, those were not the instructions He left for us!

Let us examine what the Bible says about the Lord's Supper!

- I. Background
 - a. Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper right before the Passover.
 - i. Luke 22:7-18
 - ii. Matthew 16:17-25
 - b. Passover – referencing and remembering the Old Testament
 - i. At the 1st Passover, the Children of Israel were to eat their fill so they could leave Egypt in the morning.
 - ii. Exodus 12:10
 - c. Passover was a full meal; the Lord's Supper was never intended to be one.
 - i. Passover was a sacred memorial observed annually to remember the deliverance of Israel from Egypt.
 - ii. The Lord's Supper is different – remember Jesus dying for our sins. As a true teacher, He brought something from the Old Testament and uses it to teach a New Testament principle.
 - iii. The Lord's Supper was unlike any meal before it or after it!
- II. Instituted
 - a. Matthew 26:26-29
 - b. Mark 14:22-25
 - c. Luke 22:17-20
 - d. John doesn't record it. Why? The others did such a great job, he focused on other things.
 - e. What happens?
 - i. Jesus takes the bread, blesses it, distributes it; signifies His broken body.
 - ii. Jesus takes the juice, blesses it, distributes it; signifies His shed blood.
 - f. This was not His physical body and blood.
 - i. Catholics teach it "miraculously transforms" right before their eyes into the body and blood.
 - ii. Gross thought to eat someone's flesh and drink their blood.
 - iii. This is a memorial – something we do as a remembrance. Jesus even said so.
 - g. Jesus used the food that was at the Passover meal – unleavened bread and fruit of the vine. Note: this would have been non-alcoholic.
- III. Remembered
 - a. Acts – history of the church

- i. 2:42 – continued in the breaking of bread
 - ii. 20:7 – Paul at Troas – 1st day of the week
 - iii. How many weeks have a first day? All; therefore, we take it every week.
 - iv. How long? See B.
- b. I Corinthians 11 – Paul recalling what was told to him
 - i. Verse 17 – they weren't doing everything right
 - 1. They had a common meal, no problem. V. 20-22
 - 2. Taking the Lord's Supper without everyone present – problem.
 - ii. Paul quoting Jesus – V. 23-25
 - iii. Must examine ourselves, v. 26-29
 - 1. You are the only one that can examine yourself.
 - 2. It is also unfair for your neighbor to judge you – they don't know how you have been living your life, vice-versa.
- c. How long do we keep taking the Lord's Supper? Verse 26
 - i. Until Jesus returns
 - ii. If we are blessed with another 1st day of the week, we will partake it again then.
 - iii. It is done to show the death of Jesus until He comes.

The Lord's Supper is not just a common meal – it is something we should take with honor.

Jesus Christ died for us to be able to remember Him.

Along with praying, singing, giving, and preaching, the Lord's Supper is vital to our worship.

1. Alas! and did my Savior bleed / And did my Sov'reign die? / Would He devote that sacred head / For such a worm as I?
2. Was it for crimes that I had done / He groaned upon the tree? / Amazing pity! grace unknown! / And love beyond degree!
3. Well might the sun in darkness hide / And shut his glories in, / When Christ, the mighty Maker died, / For man the creature's sin.
4. Thus might I hide my blushing face / While His dear cross appears, / Dissolve my heart in thankfulness, / And melt my eyes to tears.
5. But drops of grief can ne'er repay / The debt of love I owe: / Here, Lord, I give myself away, / 'Tis all that I can do.
6. At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, / And the burden of my heart rolled away, / It was there by faith I received my sight, / And now I am happy all the day!
7. I do believe, I do believe / That Jesus died for me; / And through His blood, His precious blood / I am from sin set free.

Next time you take the Lord's Supper, I hope you stop and think what it means. Jesus died for **YOU!!!**

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