



The Lord's Supper

Lesson 6 The Lord's Supper

(Reminder) WHAT IS A SACRAMENT?

It's a sacred act

- 1) instituted by God himself
- 2) involving earthly (physical) elements
- 3) by which God conveys to us forgiveness of sins, new life & salvation.

*Written...that
you may
have life.*

WHEN DID JESUS INSTITUTE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Written...



Matthew 26:17-20, 26-30 On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover. When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom." When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

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WHAT ARE THE EARTHLY ELEMENTS INVOLVED IN THE LORD'S SUPPER?

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JESUS SAID, "THIS IS MY BODY...BLOOD." ARE HIS BODY AND BLOOD REALLY PRESENT WHEN WE CELEBRATE THIS SACRAMENT?

Written...

1 Corinthians 10:16 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?

1 Corinthians 11:27 Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

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The Doctrine of
the Real Presence
In, with and under



Related teachings: Transubstantiation - bread and wine _____ body and blood

Representation - bread and wine _____ body and blood

YET...God's Word is clear that Christ's body and blood ARE present in the sacrament.

Miraculous?...YES! - Impossible?...NO! (Luke 1:37; Ephesians 4:10)

FOR WHAT PURPOSE DID JESUS GIVE US THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER?



Written...



1 Corinthians 11:25-26 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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Matthew 26:28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

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Luke 22:19-20 And he took the bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." .

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How only are the blessings of Holy Communion received? _____

REDEMPTION: The only thing which could free us from sin's rule over us and from the consequences of sin is the ransom payment which Jesus made for us. That payment was Christ's blood, shed on the cross. He redeemed us by his blood.



>> THE LORD'S SUPPER IS VISIBLE AND PHYSICAL GOSPEL! <<

Martin Luther:

"When the Gospel message is spoken, it is an open and public proclamation, in which I am addressing myself to no one individually; whoever grasps it, grasps it. When I distribute the sacrament, it is designated for the individual who is receiving it...Although the same thing is present in the sermon as in the sacrament (Gospel/forgiveness of sins), in the Lord's Supper there is the advantage that it is directed to definite individuals."

>> The Lord's Supper is God's personal covenant of forgiveness to each individual believer

>> As with the spoken Word, we Christians will want to receive the Lord's Supper as often as possible so that our faith can be strengthened by the working of the Holy Spirit.



WHO SHOULD COME TO THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Since the Lord's Supper is for the forgiveness of sins and the participant proclaims the gospel by receiving communion, who is the Lord's Supper intended for?

Written...

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. 28 A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. 29 For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. 30 That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

from verse 28

> Only those who can _____

A brief examination for God's people about to attend the Lord's Supper:

- >Do I recognize that I am sinful and am troubled by my sins?
- >Do I trust in Jesus as my Savior from sin and its consequences?
- >Do I believe that Christ's body and blood are present in this sacrament for the forgiveness of my sins?
- >Do I intend, with the Holy Spirit's help, to resist sin and live a Christ-like life?

What does God say (through Paul) will happen if someone partakes of the Lord's Supper without fully understanding it? (also in verse 29)

Why is it so important that we are careful about whom we invite to receive the Lord's Supper?

Why is it important that the spiritual leaders in our church make sure that Christians are attending the Lord's Supper regularly?

Should someone who is openly impenitent approach the Table?

Written...

Matthew 18:15-18 If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector. I tell you the truth, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

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IN ADDITION TO RECEIVING GOD'S BLESSINGS & REMEMBERING CHRIST'S DEATH, WE ARE CONFESSING PUBLICLY THAT WE ARE UNITED IN BELIEFS WITH OTHERS AT THE TABLE.

Written...

1 Corinthians 1:10 I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought.

1 Corinthians 10:17 Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

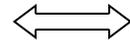
The unity of belief which we are confessing by our attendance at the Lord's Supper is based upon ALL of God's Word. (cf. 2 Timothy 3:13-17, Matthew 28:20, John 8:31, Romans 16:17) In all honesty, if there is no unity of doctrine, we should not attend the Lord's Supper together as if there were. This is the biblical and historical practice called "Closed Communion." It is also properly called "Close Communion" because the people gathering at the table are "close" in the fellowship of a common confession of belief.

THE WORD "COMMUNION"

1> Communion with God by his real presence in the sacrament



2> Communion with other Christians who confess the truth of God's Word



How is God's loving care for his people seen in the Lord's Supper?

- He knows what you and I face every day! (Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened...)
- Through this sacrament, God strengthens our faith in him and his promises and empowers us to live our lives according to his will and dedicated to his glory.
- This "remembrance" of our Savior is only temporary. The time is coming soon when we will live face to face with Jesus in the joy of our heavenly home.



For Consideration...

1. Is it proper to use grape juice in the Lord's Supper instead of wine?
2. Who may distribute the Lord's Supper in a worship service?
3. What if I feel a special need for the Lord's Supper but I am unable to attend for one reason or another?
4. If I feel that my faith is weak should I come to the Lord's Supper?
5. A/D Everyone who goes to communion receives the body and blood of Christ.
6. A/D Everyone who goes to communion receives the forgiveness of sins.
7. When is Christ's body and blood present with the bread and wine?