



Gateways

Communion

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Remembrance Day

- celebrate what sacrifice has purchased
- honor those who went in our place
- recognize the freedoms we have

Believers – Lords Supper is like this

- celebrate what sacrifice has purchased
- honor what was done for us
- embrace the relationship and freedom it brings

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1 Cor. 11:17-34

In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else.

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One remains hungry, another gets drunk. Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing?" Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not!

For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me."

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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. 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. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

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For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

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1. Surrounding Issues

a) who is this for?

- disciples

b) forms and expressions

- symbolic expression or Holy items

c) guidelines around participation

- vs. 17 – 22 self centered or unifying

d) self examination

- vs. 27-32 worthy and unworthy participation

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2. Remember

a) What Jesus Did

- being betrayed – knowingly shared this
- gave thanks – clear on what God would allow
- broke the bread – about to lay his body down
- shared the cup – his blood for our transgressions
- declared new relationship – new covenant
- secured hope – will participate together again

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b) what this Covenant Means

- Jeremiah 31:31-34

“The time is coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will make a new covenant
with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah.

³² It will not be like the covenant
I made with their forefathers
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,

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because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them,” declares the LORD.

³³ “This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds
and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

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³⁴ No longer will a man teach his neighbor,
or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,'
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest,"
declares the LORD.

"For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more."

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i) forgiveness of sins

- vs. 34

- Matt. 26:28...

“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”

ii) Made Alive in Christ

- old covenant – external, written on stones

- now written on our hearts, minds vs.33

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- Rom 8:3-4...

“For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.”

- now the delight of a heart not duty of obligation

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- purchased not just..... but also.....

- forgiveness

transformation

- justification

sanctification

- pardon

purity

- favor

faith

iii) Belong to the Father

- I will be their God – they will be my people

- new identity – new relationship

- betrothed, adopted son's and daughters

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iv) Available to All if they choose

- not through what they are told – personally
- not through wealth or privilege or birth – all
- greatest to the least

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3. What Our Participation Declares

- a) I am a recipient of this Grace
 - clear to all – this is my tribe
- b) I am being nourished at this table
 - called supper
- c) I am joined to the family
 - 1 Cor. 10:16-17
- d) I serve a risen returning Lord
 - watching for his return

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So What

1. Invitation to Begin Journey
2. Invitation to all on Journey to Participate
3. Prepare your Heart
4. Present yourself to God
5. Praise His Work



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