

LORD'S SUPPER AS WORSHIP

1Cor.11:27

INTRODUCTION:

- A. The institution of the Lord's Supper is found in these passages Matt.26:26-29; Mk.14:22-25; Lk.22:19-20; 1Cor.11:23-25
- B. First century Christians observed it weekly Acts 20:7
- C. It is possible in this action to receive the highest blessings and the greatest condemnation.
- D. It is imperative that we recognize its proper significance and observe it as worship to God as it is intended
- E. **IT IS WORSHIP BECAUSE:**

DISCUSSION:

I. IT IS A COMMEMORATION (calls to mind great sacrifice)

- A. In memory of Christ's death, burial & resurrection Lk.22:19 which is the heart of the Gospel 1Cor.15:1-4
- B. Man easily forgets: the reason for pictures, tombs, etc.
 - 1. Best memories fail, people forgotten Jer.2:32; Eccl.12:1
 - 2. Admonished to remember 2Pet.3:1; Rev.2:5
- C. The Lord's Supper is a constant reminded of the Lord's death, burial and resurrection
 - 1. Unleavened bread for the body 1Cor.11:23; Note: Matt.26:17,26
 - 2. Fruit of the vine for the blood 1Cor.11:25; Matt.26:27,29
- D. By faith we see Christ's sacrifice for us in Lord's Supper

II. IT IS A COMMUNION (sharing in great sacrifice)

- A. The cup and bread are communion of body and blood of Christ 1Cor.10:16
- B. Communion is "Koinonia" means sharing with
- C. Brings us to the realization of our union with Christ
 - 1. Paul's argument is that eating idolatrous meat in the idol's temple unites the eater with the idol, and proves this by showing that the eating of the Lord's Supper identifies the Christian with Christ 1Cor.10:14-29
 - 2. Therefore the Lord's Supper is for Christians only Matt.26:29
- D. Lord's Supper is a two-fold communion: With Christ 1Cor.10:16; With one another 1Cor.10:17

III. IT IS A PROCLAMATION (proclaiming great sacrifice)

- A. Show the Lord's death till he comes 1Cor.11:26
- B. In observing the Lord's Supper every Christian can proclaim his faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Christ to the world.
 - 1. A good reason to "not forsake" Heb.10:25 of course this is true of any worship

- 2. If improper observance makes weak 1Cor.11:30, then what will proper observance do for us? What will no observance do for us?

- C. We preach sermons each time we observe Lord's Supper
 - 1. On God's love, grace, salvation, etc.
 - 2. On Christian's faith courage and zeal

IV. IT IS A DEDICATION (reminds of great responsibility)

- A. Covenant of my blood 1Cor.11:25
 - 1. Reference to ratifying or sealing of an agreement
 - 2. Ex.24:5-8 records the sealing of the covenant of God with Israel. The animal was slain and its blood sprinkled on the people. The blood sprinkled on the contracting parties solemnly bound them to their agreement. God promised to bless Israel and Israel promised to obey God
- B. The Lord's Supper represents the blood ratified covenant between Christ and the Christian Heb.8:6,8,12
 - 1. Christ promised to bless with forgiveness, peace, hope, and spiritual blessings Eph.1:3
 - 2. In eating the Supper we bind ourselves to Christ
 - 3. Israel said: "All that Jehovah hath spoken will we do and be obedient" Ex.24:7
 - 4. We must eat the Lord's Supper with a consciousness of our promised dedication to Christ. He will keep His part; will we?
 - a. Liberality: we promised, do we perform?
 - b. Purity of life, we promised, are we true?

V. IT IS AN ANTICIPATION (reminds us of great hope)

- A. We are to observe "till he come" 1Cor.11:26
 - 1. While we eat the hope of the second coming fills our hearts Jhn.14:3; Acts 1:11; 1Thess.4:16
 - 2. The Lord's Supper spans the gulf between the first and second coming of our Lord, "Until he come"
- B. Great blessing to be received at His second coming
 - 1. Should desire, anticipate and rejoice in this thought
 - 2. This hope and anticipation is rekindled each week as we observe the Lord's Supper

CONCLUSION:

- A. These thoughts should convince us of the extreme need for observing this memorial feast
- B. There is more to this supper than meets the eye of the casual observer, as is the case with all our worship. That's because our worship proceeds from the heart and the thoughts of the heart cannot be seen except as they are acted upon. Note definition again
- C. If properly observed it will result in greater love, appreciation, faith, zeal, obedience, hope and joy

