

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 – Remember & Proclaim

Huntingdon Missionary Baptist Church – Sunday, May 5, 2024

1 Cor 11:23-26 – Paul recounts the instruction He was given regarding the Lord's Supper

Context: The church of Corinth was not partaking with reverence for the Lord or in consideration of one another.

They were eating and drinking (at least most of them) but not in obedience to these clear commands.

Our focus today is to consider the clear instructions of Christ (through Paul):

1. Remember Jesus

1 Cor 11:24-25 ... *Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. ²⁵After 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.*

2. Proclaim His Death

1 Cor 11:26 *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.*
Shew – *katangelo* – to report, announce publicly

We Remember

Remembrance of this sort is not passive, but active. We must call certain things to mind.

NOTE: Proper observance isn't about holding all these facts in your mind at once, but rather having your mind on Christ.

1. The Lord (Divinity)

1Cor 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:*

The Lord's Supper is an observation of the Old Testament Passover Meal transposed into a Christian key.

The God who instituted the Passover on the Eve of Israel's Deliverance is the same God who instituted the Lord's Supper on the Eve of our Deliverance.

2. He Took Bread & the Cup (Humanity)

1Cor 11:23-25 ... *the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: ... ²⁵After the same manner also he took the cup,*

When the 70 elders of Israel ate a covenant meal on Mount Sinai, it was at the feet of the Lord (Ex 24:9-11)

At the Last Supper, God in the flesh broke bread with them and then washed their feet.

3. He Gave Thanks

1Cor 11:23-25 ...*the Lord Jesus... took bread: ²⁴And when he had given thanks, he brake it, ... ²⁵After the same manner also he took the cup,*

The only thing His disciples asked Jesus to teach them was how to pray.

In His prayers, His unbroken communion with the Father was on display.

- This prayer was no less powerful, personal, and sincere than any other.
- Despite everything going on around Him, and before Him, He maintained a grateful heart to His Father.

4. He was Betrayed

1Cor 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:*

The sin of mankind was fresh, hot, and deeply personal on the night of the Last Supper.

As He observed this meal, one of His inner twelve had departed to betray Him for thirty pieces of silver (\$90-\$450).

- This gives us insight into the whole realm of inner turmoil He faced on that horrible night.
- His Composure, Commitment to His Father, and Compassion on His disciples were not diminished.

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5. This is My Body

1Cor 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.

He was truly “poured out” in His body, irretrievably broken beyond normal repair.

Heb 10:5 Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, “Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; (ESV) **Our Great High Priest was His own sacrifice unto the Father. This was the greatest purpose (necessity) of His humanity. This is the broken bread we take.**

6. This is My Blood

1Cor 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: Why the body and the blood?

Lev 17:14 For the life of every creature is its blood: its blood is its life... (ESV)

In His body, we see His suffering, but in His blood, we find the life of Christ, poured out that it may be applied to us.

OT: The blood of a sacrifice was often taken and applied to items or people to purify or sanctify them.

What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!

7. This is For You

1Cor 11:24-25 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. ²⁵After 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.

You – plural in this passage

We know John 3:16 (the Father’s side), but here we see the Son’s love and commitment is no less.

New Testament – New Covenant

Re: Wednesday nights – God has desired to have His own people with His law written on their hearts (**Jer 31:33**)

Luke 22:15 And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. (ESV)

Out of all the meals they shared, why was this meal so special to Him?

We Proclaim

1Cor 11:26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come.

- We do this Properly – **Remembering Him and His death!**

- We do this Publicly – **Not in a closet.**

Like the first ordinance after salvation (baptism), we are continuing to publicly identify with Jesus.

- We do this Together – Shoulder to shoulder with other baptized believers.

Each life is a story of the redemptive power of Christ’s blood.

- We do this Until He Returns.

Remember that last question: this meal looks back to His death, which is the price for a coming family feast.

Why just bread & the cup? This isn’t the full Passover meal or even a full meal. **We aren’t meant to get full!**

In a sense, this is just an appetizer, just a teaser, just a reminder of what lies ahead.