

## Communion – October 2005

Psalms 23:1-6; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34 / Deuteronomy 5:1-22

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### I. The Lord's Supper Comes from Jesus

**A. Jesus transformed the Passover into the Communion on the night of His betrayal; neither Paul nor anyone else had a right to change His pattern.** “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:*” (1 CORINTHIANS 11:23)

**B. The commandment of the Lord sets the standard for Communion.** “Teaching them to *observe all things whatsoever I have commanded* you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.” (MATTHEW 28:20)

**C. Jesus is Lord of the Church and consequently He does not need any intermediaries.** “But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For *I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.*” (GALATIANS 1:11-12)

### II. Pay Attention to the Savior

**A. The Passover symbol of the sacrificed lamb became the symbol of the cross and the grave which Jesus would endure for the redemption of His people.** “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.*” (1 CORINTHIANS 11:24)

**B. At its core, the Lord's Supper is about the believer's escape from eternal death to eternal life.** “The *meek shall eat and be satisfied:* they shall praise the LORD that seek him: *your heart shall live for ever.*” (PSALM 22:26)

**C. Grace is satisfying, full, and free; Jesus paid it all for His people.** “Ho, every one that thirsteth, *come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.* Wherefore do ye spend money for *that which* is not bread? and your labour for *that which* satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and *eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself* in fatness. Incline your ear, and *come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live;* and *I will make an everlasting covenant* with you, *even* the sure mercies of David.” (ISAIAH 55:1-3)

**D. Jesus is His own interpreter; in Him is life's only hope.** "Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.** Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and **I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.** He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. **As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.**" (JOHN 6:53-58)

### III. The Blessings Are Reserved to the Faithful

**A. In the Lord's Supper, believers bear witness to the SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT and that they have renounced the world to rely on Jesus.** "After 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. For **as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.**" (1 CORINTHIANS 11:25-26)

**B. Do not mock the Savior.** "Wherefore **whosoever shall eat this** bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, **unworthily, shall be guilty** of the body and blood of the Lord." (1 CORINTHIANS 11:27)

**C. Are you with Jesus or with the world; there is no third option.** "Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: **ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.**" (1 CORINTHIANS 10:21)

**D. The Supper is for believers, not for hypocrites; believers are sinners saved by grace who trust in the merits of Jesus alone for eternal salvation.** "But let a man **examine** himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. **For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation** to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." (1 CORINTHIANS 11:28-29)

**E. God takes our promises seriously.** "For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep. For **if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.** But **when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.**" (1 CORINTHIANS 11:30-32)

**F. God takes His promises seriously, too.** "**Come unto me**, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **Take my yoke** upon you, and learn of me; for **I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**" (MATTHEW 11:28-30)