



April 29, 2007 (Vol. 7)

Misconceptions About The Lord's Supper

edited

The Lord's Supper is a "communion" or sharing in the body and blood of Christ (1 Cor. 10:16). It is done as a reminder of the sacrifice of Christ (1 Cor. 11:24). It is done in anticipation of His final coming (11:26). It is not to be eaten unworthily (i.e. without proper reflection upon what it represents and how what Christ has done should affect our lives) (11:27). It is to be observed on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), which comes every week.

Even with so much said of it in the N.T., it seems that misconceptions arise among us. Let us consider a few.

(1) Taking It To The Sick Or Shut-In. We know that Catholic priests at times carry their perversion of communion with them to administered at will. But, what of the Lord's Supper? Should we take it to the infirm or those who are home-bound? If we are the ones who are homebound, should we call the brethren so they will bring it to us?

When Jesus instituted this memorial supper, He placed it in the kingdom (Lk. 22:16, 18, 30). When the kingdom came, we only read of Christians partaking of it *when they came together* on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). First Corinthians states six times that the Supper is partaken of when saints come together or assemble (1 Cor. 11:17-34). Thus, the Lord's Supper belongs in the assembly. What ever reason that justly hinders us from assembling (which is also a command Heb. 10:24) would likewise justly apply to the Lord's Supper.

(2) Salve For The Vacationer's Conscience. I have read of preachers and brethren hunting who took the Lord's Supper with them. They took a moment to partake and then continued hunting. One congregation in California even has a drive through version of the Lord's Supper. My, my – how convenient that must be. We don't even have to waste time leaving our car in order to "get it over with".

The Lord's Supper was not instituted to suit the convenience of those who forsake the assembly because of pleasure. It is one thing when we are hindered, or contrary to our earnest effort are unable to assemble. It is altogether another for us to think of the Lord's Supper as: "If I just do that, then God will be pleased" even while we choose to pursue things of personal entertainment.

(3) Commune, Then Leave. Some have apparently come to believe that the only item of worship required of them is the Lord's Supper. This is "the most important act of worship" to them. Much like Catholics who think that their mere presence at mass will suffice, some think that as long as they break the bread they may then leave and omit the other acts of worship planned for the brethren.

For example, some brethren who travel stop by a congregation just long enough to partake of the Lord's Supper then leave before services were over. Perhaps you have seen it too. I've even read of one congregation that had as many as 50 people leave after communion. And another congregation changed the time of the communion from the beginning of services to the end, so that they could get people to stay the whole service.

What a shame and what a sham that some think so little of their Lord and of His tremendous sacrifice, that He can only be offered a few "convenient" moments of respect. The Lord's Supper is not the only action which God has ordained as a way to express devotion to Him. Have brethren heard all the preaching they need? Have brethren sung all the songs they can tolerate? Has service to the Lord become so old and tiresome? Have we forgotten to be grateful in our hearts for all that the Lord has done and promises yet to do?

What does the Lord's Supper mean to you? Are you taking it by rote habit? Or are you mindful of your thoughts, remembering Christ's suffering and examining your life for sin? Is worship something you come to observe? Or is it something you offer to God and heartily participate in? As the old saying goes, You get out of it what you put into it.

DO YOU LOVE JESUS?

Do you wake up each day and speak with Him?
Do you read His book?
Do you go through each day walking with Him?
Do you introduce Him to others?
Do you love His family?
Even the unlikable ones?
Do you end each day by speaking with Him?

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER & PRAY FOR

Marilyn Poteet-Langford, Johanna Fletcher, Othena Kinnard, Jo Miller, Wesley Geer (Life Care 316), Mag Bumbalough (Back in room 519, slightly improved), Thelma Cunningham, Mary Cox, Monie Petty (breathing difficulties), Dave Poteet (Cookeville 502), Dorris Williams, Robert & Betty England, Ed Williams (heart blockages), Joe Smith, Lydia Poe, Mike Tenpenny, Thelma Klein, DeLeesa Price (expecting) and Alisa Fletcher (expecting), Kenley Streeval, Larry Bumbalough, Jake Hale, Joshua & Misty Poteet. Also, Reba Jones (Dorris Williams' niece), Jackie Tindle (cancer, relative of the Sims), Marci Miller (Alisa Fletcher's mother), Ocia Bell Jones (Doris William's mother), Ruth Williams (Betty England's niece), Pauline Hickey, Kitty Mahan (Kathy Tenpenny's mother), Dwayne Williams (Dorris William's son), Paul Grissom, Carl Williams (Ed's brother), Teddy Sims.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Home Bible Study - Sat. May 12, 26
- Door To Door - Every Tuesday @ 6pm.
- Business Meeting - Sun. April 29.
- Ladies Class - 2nd & Last Sunday Each Month.
- GM - Raymond Castillo, Oct.14-19, 2007.
- GM - Brian Yeager, April 13-18, 2008.
- GM - Lanny Smith, Oct.12-17, 2008.

We Invite You To All Our Services!

Sunday Bible Study	9 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10 am
Sunday Evening Worship	6 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7 pm

<http://frontiernet.net/~nscoc>
nscoc@frontiernet.net

2007 May

SUNDAY-MORNING		5/6/07	5/13/07	5/20/07	5/27/07
<i>Greeter</i>		Adam Featherston	Ralph Sims	Ralph Sims	Ralph Sims
<i>Announcements</i>		Michael Fletcher	Michael Fletcher	Anthony Rece	Anthony Rece
<i>Reading</i>		Matt Eller Pr 27	Micah Eller Pr 28	Jack Stafford Pr 29	Matt Eller Pr 30
<i>Song Leader</i>		Chad Sims	Kevin Blankenship	Harold Frazier	Chad Sims
<i>Opening Prayer</i>		Mark Welte	Sam Gardner	Mark Welte	Mark Eller
<i>Lord's Supper Lead</i> <i>Lord's Supper Assist</i>		David Price Ben Trute Anthony Rece Micah Eller	David Price Jack Stafford Ben Trute Jake Hale	David Price Jake Hale Ben Trute Micah Eller	Kevin Blankenship Jack Stafford Jake Hale Ben Trute
<i>Closing Prayer</i>		Jack Stafford	Matt Eller	Matt Eller	Micah Eller

SUNDAY-EVENING		5/6/07	5/13/07	5/20/07	5/27/07
<i>Opening Prayer</i>		Kevin Blankenship	Mark Eller	Michael Fletcher	Sam Gardner
<i>Song Leader</i>		Sam Gardner	Chad Sims	Chad Sims	
<i>Closing Prayer</i>		Ralph Sims	Micah Eller	Matt Eller	Jack Stafford
<i>Lord's Supper Lead</i>		Mark Eller	Harold Frazier	Kevin Blankenship	Michael Fletcher
<i>Speaker / Invitation</i>			Mark Welte		Mark Welte
<i>Group</i>		1	2	3	4

WEDNESDAY-EVENING	5/2/07	5/9/07	5/16/07	5/23/07	5/30/07
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Doug Hill	Doug Hill	Mark Eller	Adam Featherston	Michael Fletcher
<i>Song Leader</i>	David Price	Sam Gardner	Adam Featherston	Harold Frazier	David Price
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Harold Frazier	Jerry Taylor	Jerry Taylor	Jerry Taylor	Jerry Taylor
<i>Invitation</i>	Mark Welte	Adam Featherston	Doug Hill	Doug Hill	Adam Featherston