

The Lord's Supper

“14 And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. 15 And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer: 16 For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. 17 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: 18 For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. 19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. 20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.” (Luke 22:14-20 KJV)

We do the Lord's Supper and we practice that because the Lord commanded us and said, *“this do in remembrance of me.”* So we not only need to remember and do the Lord's Supper for the Lord who gave His body and shed His blood for our lives, but we need also to remember and do the whole commands of God and the instructions of the Lord.

Therefore it is not correct to observe the Lord's Supper but forgetting the rest of God's Word and His commands. For this reason only the disciples who are following God wholeheartedly they are invited to the Lord's Supper. Therefore we need to practice the Lord's Supper with the disciples and not with the crowd. Jesus invited His disciples, His apostles and they were His workers to take the Lord's Supper.

What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper? The bread represents the body of the Lord, *“This is my body which is given for you.”* And the cup represents the New Testament (or the New Covenant) with the blood of Jesus, *“This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”*

“53 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. 54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.” (John 6:53-55 KJV) When Jesus said, *“Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you”*, some people they misunderstand that when they think that when they are taking the Lord's Supper they are having eternal life. That is not correct. To understand what is the Lord's Supper we need to understand what is the body of Jesus and His blood is.

“1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” (John 1:1 KJV) The Word of God was with God and The Word was God, and in *John 1:14* we can read, *“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”* The Word became flesh and that is Jesus Christ, the living Word.

So when Jesus said in *John 6:53*, *“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.”* He means unless you take the Word of God and lives on it then you will have no life. And that is why Jesus said, *“56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.” (John 6:56 KJV)* It means if we are living on His Word, and by obeying them, then we remain in Him and He in

us. Therefore we feed and live on God's Word, remaining in Him and He in us through His Word, and we practice the Lord's Supper declaring this truth in our lives.

Let us ponder on the following points about the Lord's Supper:

1. The Lord's Supper represents the sacrifice: When we eat the bread we are reminded of Jesus who came down to earth as a man and offered His body for us. He was born as a Son of God; He served mankind as human and did miracles being God. When we drink the cup we are reminded of the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. Before Jesus, in the Old Testament, the people could not come directly to God because of sin. But by the blood of Jesus we received the new covenant. Because without the shedding of the blood there is no forgiveness of sin, *“22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” (Hebrews 9:22 KJV)* We now can come boldly to the throne of God's grace because Jesus had paid the price. He became the sacrifice for our sins. *“23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Roman 6:23 KJV)* Moreover, the Lord's Supper is not a tradition but a command to do as Jesus said, *“this do in remembrance of me.”* Hence, we should not take it lightly but ought to take the Lord's Supper after we examined ourselves and assured that our sins are forgiven by believing who Jesus is, and by coming to Him with repented heart. *“28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29 KJV)* Awareness of sin move us to repentance as we acknowledge the sacrifice of Jesus for our sins and valuing His suffering on the cross for us to save us. **But if you are not willing to repent, better for you not to take the Lord's Supper, because in doing so you are bringing judgment on yourself. We as Church of God we recommend that the Lord's Supper to be given only to the disciples; those who had been water baptized and committed themselves to follow Christ wholeheartedly, therefore we do not recommend the Lord's Supper to the crowd who have not yet committed their lives and heart to God. We recommend the Lord's Supper for those who commit their lives to God, to Christ, to the Word of God and to do their responsibilities carefully toward God, their families and toward God's Church.**

2. The Lord's Supper proclaims that Jesus died: *“26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.” (1 Corinthians 11:26 KJV)* The glory of Jesus was not only seen by the miracles He did or He is doing. His glory was manifested when He died on the cross, raised from the dead and ascended unto Heaven. This is the truth: Jesus died on the cross to redeem us from sin and death. We proclaim this as we share together the bread and the cup. Jesus is God, *“6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God.” (Philippians 2: 6 KJV)*, but He became man to share humanity with the children of God. He died on the cross to destroy Satan who holds the power of death. *“14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.” (Hebrews 2:14-15 KJV)*

3. The Lord's Supper proclaims the Lord's second coming: *“26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.” (1 Corinthians 11:26 KJV)* The Lord Jesus said, *“29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.” (Matthew 26:29 KJV)* Jesus had ascended unto Heaven but He will come again as He said, *“3 And if I go*

and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” (John 14:3 KJV) We all wait for the second coming of the Lord, and we all will be judged at His coming. *“2 And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.” (Daniel 12:2 KJV)* We who believe in Jesus and obey His Words our names are written in the book of life. *“15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” (Revelation 20:15 KJV)* As we partake the bread and the cup we proclaim that we are waiting and ready for the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ to take us with Him. Therefore you really need to be ready if you want to be part of the Lord’s Supper! Are you ready for the second coming of the Lord? Prepare yourself and be ready.

4. The Lord’s Supper represents our continuous fellowship with God: When we received Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior we spiritually opened our hearts for Him to come in. *“20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” (Revelation 3:20 KJV)* The Lord Jesus is now with God the Father but the Holy Spirit whom He sent is continuously with us and in us and we are in continuous fellowship with Him. While we obey God’s Word the Holy Spirit is honored, Jesus is glorified and God the Father is magnified.

5. The Lord’s Supper emphasizes our fellowship with one another: Living in the presence of God produces unity among believers and promotes obedience to God’s Word. We cannot live without fellowships or away from the church. Besides reading the Bible and praying, we need to be part of the church, the body of Christ, in order for us to grow and mature spiritually. And as the early Christians did that, *“42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.” (Acts 2:42 KJV)*

The Lord’s Supper is parallel to the passover lamb that God had asked Moses and the Israelites to observe and keep. The passover lamb is the shadow of what had to come later on, *“1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things.” (Hebrews 10:1 KJV)* Through Jesus Christ our Lord and His death on the cross and His blood that was shed to redeem us from our sins we have eternal life. And we are commanded to do the Lord’s Supper as the Israelites were commanded to observe the passover Lamb, for Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb who was sacrificed for us: *“7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.” (1 Corinthians 5:7 KJV)*

“28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.” (Hebrews 11:28 KJV) Moses observed the passover and the sprinkling of blood. The Lord commanded Moses and Aaron to observe the following in regard to the passover: *“1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, 2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: 4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall*

eat it. 8 And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. 10 And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. 11 And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD’s passover. 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. 13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:1-13 KJV)

Moses and the people of God in Egypt believed that as they will put the blood on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses where they ate the lambs will be saved from death. We are saved from death by grace through faith in Christ Jesus, *“8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Ephesians 2:8 KJV)*

But you need to observe that Moses and the people with him they did not only observe putting the blood but they ate also the lamb. As for our lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ, the living Word, then you needs not only to believe but to partake and live according to the Word of God, for Jesus is the living Word of God. For Moses and the Israelites there were regulations they needed to observe before taking the passover: *“43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: 44 But every man’s servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. 45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof. 46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. 49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you. 50 Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. 51 And it came to pass the selfsame day, that the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.” (Exodus 12:43-51 KJV):*

A. “There shall no stranger eat thereof;” (Exodus 12:43 KJV): We should know the people’s life well before we invite them to the Lord’s Supper. We do the Lord’s Supper with the disciples only.

B. “44 But every man’s servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.” (Exodus 12:44 KJV): Speaking about circumcision is the circumcision of the heart, to live away from the sinful nature. Only those who observe to live in holiness should receive the Lord’s Supper. If you still live in sin and not willing to repent, better not to take the Lord’s Supper.

C. “45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.” (Exodus 12:45 KV): Those who are not part of the ministry should take it with their own churches and ministries. Paid workers and ministers are not the ideal for our service to God. Ministry is not a paid job to be fulfilled. It is a calling and commitment and cannot be considered job and employment.

D. “In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house;” (Exodus 12:46 KJV): The head of the house is the responsible person to know every person in his household before he let him or her involved in the Lord’s Supper. Today the committed and faithful workers are the members of God’s household who are invited to the Lord’s Supper.

E. “Neither shall ye break a bone thereof.” (Exodus 12:46 KJV): No command of God to be broken. You should observe all the commands of God and abide with His instructions.

F. “47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.” (Exodus 12:47 KJV): Every believer is responsible to make himself available and live in holiness so he can take part in the Lord’s Supper. Those who are not willing to commit their lives fully to God, the church should not include them to take the Lord’s Supper.

G. “48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. 49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.” (Exodus 12:48-49 KJV): Holiness and commitment to live according to the Word of God and bringing the gospel to our families and households is the rule for all those who want to take part of the Lord’s Supper. For the church today the Lord’s Supper is like the passover celebration, and all the disciples should observe holiness and living according to the Word of God and committing themselves for Christ’s Mission to preach the gospel before partaking the Lord’s Supper.

In **Ezra 6:19-21** we can read how Ezra observed the Passover to the Israelites; only those who **“which were come again out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the heathen of the land, to seek the LORD God of Israel, did eat.”** they were included: **“19 And the children of the captivity kept the passover upon the fourteenth day of the first month. 20 For the priests and the Levites were purified together, all of them were pure, and killed the passover for all the children of the captivity, and for their brethren the priests, and for themselves. 21 And the children of Israel, which were come again out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the heathen of the land, to seek the LORD God of Israel, did eat.” (Ezra 6:19-21 KJV)** Those who had taken part in the Passover, they had the following:

1. “were come again out of captivity”, it means they had been released from their bondages. People who are still smoking, drinking, still telling lies, cheating or doing immoral things they should not be invited to the Lord’s Supper. They need to be set free first from sin then they can join us in taking the Lord’s Supper.

2. “had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the heathen of the land”, it means they are no more worldly and living in sin or following worldly practices as the non believers. Those who desire to take the Lord’s Supper they should no more desire to watch TV, U tubes, movies, desire to go to parties, spending much, having wrong friends, making worldly affairs, etc.

3. “to seek the LORD”, it means they move away from the old life of sin and darkness toward the light and start to draw near to God by seeking to do His will and doing His work and serve Him.

Therefore we as a church need to practice the Lord’s Supper only with the disciples whom we know well they are living on His Word. The Lord’s Supper should not be opened to the crowd, the public and to everyone in our church meetings. Only those whom we know they are following and practicing God’s Word then we needs to invite. We do the Lord’s Supper once in a year in a separate meeting, and we do invite the disciples only.

The church should observe that the Lord’s Supper should be done in a worthy manner, **“27 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 KJV)** **Those who are water baptized and had committed their lives to serve the Lord and walk according to His Word they are invited to the Lord’s table.**

As we come to know what is the bread and the cup, the element of the Lord’s Supper and as we come to realize the importance of our willingness to live on His Word and practice it before we take part in the Lord’s table, then we need to find out what was the food of Jesus and what He was living on. In **John 4** while Jesus was sharing God’s Word to a sinful woman His disciples approached Him to eat with them the food they brought from a nearby town, Jesus told them, **“32 But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.” (John 4:32 KJV)** And then He told them, **“34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.” (John 4:34 KJV)** Therefore as we are taking the Lord’s Supper we need to take part of Jesus’ food in doing God’s will and to finish the work of God, to go on forward in living holy life, preaching the gospel and making new disciples and training new workers.

But even with the above measures to invite those whom we know they are committed to God, we may not be correct in our decision, because we are not God and we may not know well what in every person heart and what is the secret of their personal lives. So every person whom we invite for the Lord’s Supper finally he is still accountable to repent and turn from sin if he or she has a hidden sin in his or her life, **“28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29 KJV)**

Christ when invited His Apostles, Judas was one of them. The disciples did not know that he was a thief and he was planning to betray the Lord. The disciples were not aware of his spiritual condition. But the Lord who invited him possibly was giving him a chance to repent, but he was not willing. So in the same way when we invite the people whom we know they are disciples and they are serving the Lord with us, still we may not be able to discover their secret sins so they are accountable to God to allow the Holy Spirit to examine them, and to repent of their sins. Therefore, **“28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. 29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.” (1 Corinthians 11:28-29 KJV)** *** That we need to make it very clear when we invite our disciples to the Lord’s Supper; we need to explain to them everything and we need to make them understand that they are accountable to the Lord, to repent of whatever sin they are hiding. What we are telling here is this: * If we are invited to the Lord Supper that is all because God so loves us and our response to God’s love is to repent from our sins and to live our lives for Him. * Holiness should be the standard for our lives and being, then we can take part in the Lord Supper. * Many they take the Lord Supper**

thinking the Lord Supper can save them. That is not correct. Christ blood can save us and is the atonement for our sins when we repent. Receiving Christ and living up to His Word, doing His will and finishing His work is our qualifications for the Lord's Supper. * My instruction and advice to you if you are in sin and you are not willing to repent then better not to take so you will not bring judgment on yourself.

My Dear and Beloved: "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: 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. 25 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. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (I Corinthians 11: 23-26 KJV)

Come now to the Lord and repent and renounce all your sins. Commit yourself to the principles that we had learned from His Word in this message. Examine yourself, allows the Holy Spirit to examine you and repent of your sins.

Lord I come before in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I confess and renounce the following sins from my life _____.

Lord I commit myself to live according to your Word, to do your will and to serve you and to finish the work that you entrusted me to do.

"19 And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. 20 Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." (Luke 22:19-20 KJV) Lord thank for your body that was given and hanged on the cross for us. Lord thank you for your blood that was shed on the cross for our sins to give us eternal life. Lord sanctify these elements of the bread and the cup. Lord sanctify us through and through, body, soul and spirit as we are committing ourselves to live our lives for you and to serve you.

The bread represents the body of Jesus Christ who was given and broken and hanged on the cross for us, and the cup of the New Testament represents the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins.

When you are ready come and take the bread and the cup and keep it with you so we can take them together.

"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: 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. (Let us partake the bread) 25 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. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. (Let us partake the cup)" (I Corinthians 11: 23-26 KJV) Lord we thank you for your great sacrifice on the cross, that you die on the cross for our sins to give us eternal life. Lord thank you for the ordinance of the Lord's Supper and

this fellowship that we have with you. Thank you for your suffering and for your body that was hanged on the cross and your blood that was shed for our sins. Lord hold us with your grace, preserve us, protect us and provide for us that we will continue to serve you, living in your will and finishing your works until you come and take us to Heaven.

Lord thank you for Your Word that taught us about the ordinance of the Lord's Supper. Lord we commit ourselves to continue to do that in remembrance of you. Lord we commit ourselves to live in holiness, away from sin; separating ourselves from the sinful practices of this world. Lord we commit ourselves to be responsible to keep this ordinance of the Lord's Supper and practice it in a worthy manner.

Lord thank you for my Brothers and Sisters who repented of their sins, committing their lives to you to go on and serve you and who took part in the Lord's Supper; Lord protect them and provide for them to continue to serve you.

Lord bless us as a church and help us to implement fully your will, and finishing your work and living according to your Word. Lord help us so that we will continue to teach what is in accord to your Word and to implement what we learned in this message in the life of the church and our families and disciples. Lord refill us with the Holy Spirit once again and give us the spiritual gifts to go on and serve you reaching the lost. Lord go before us and help us to evangelize, making new disciples and training new workers to go and plant new congregations and new Bible studies for the church. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God', Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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