

Worship – The Lord's Supper

070217AM

Independence Day Celebration!

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

- Freedom from sin and the fear of death!
- Worship – in spirit and in truth – John 4:23-24 – the standard for New Testament worship.
- Not vain worship, which will be “rooted up” – Matthew 15:8-9, 13.
- “In spirit” - heart is right in the sight of God; attitude is humble, submissive, and reverent towards Him.
- “In truth” - in keeping with the requirements of the inspired word of God.
- Pleases God and edifies the church.

The Lord's Supper

- Privilege of the kingdom: Mk. 14:25 “Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”
- Commanded: “this do in remembrance of me” 1 Cor. 11:24-25.
- Properly meaningful only to faithful disciples as citizens of His kingdom – Eph. 2:19; Phil. 3:20.

The Lord's Supper - When?

- Well known, well established practice in first century – Paul & company waited a week in Troas for an assembly – Acts 20:6-7.
- First day of the week assembly was also well established in Corinth – 1 Cor. 16:2.
- This is approved, apostolic example, and is as binding as a direct command. Compare Phil. 4:9.

Other early references

- Didache (c. late first century AD) 14:1 “And on the Lord’s own day gather yourselves together and break bread and give thanks, first confessing your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure.”

- Justin Martyr (c. 150 A.D.) wrote how Christians regularly assembled on the first day of the week and shared in the Lord's Supper, prayer, etc. - Apology I, chapter 67.

Does observance on the first day of each week diminish its importance and meaning as some denominational people argue? Only if assembling, singing, praying, preaching, and giving every week diminishes their importance and meaning, too. The fact is, that observing the Lord's Supper in any other way than the New Testament way diminishes it and despoils it!

The Lord's Supper – Why?

- A **Communion** with the Lord Jesus Christ – 1 Cor. 10:16. From *koinonia*, meaning partnership, fellowship, sharing.
- A **Memorial** – Lk. 22:19 “do this in remembrance of Me.”
- A **Proclamation** – 1 Cor. 11:26. From *kataggello*, meaning to proclaim, announce, declare. The death, resurrection, and second coming are fundamental to the faith, without which “we are of all men the most pitiable” 1 Cor. 15:12-19.

The Lord's Supper – How?

- Est. **During the Passover** (Mat. 26:19, 29; Mk. 14:16, 25; Lk. 22:15, 18) thus, the bread was unleavened and the cup was the fruit of the vine (of the grape).
- **Together** – a time for assembly – 1 Cor. 11:33 “Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.” Acts 20:7.
- With **Self Examination** – 1 Cor. 11:27-29.
- Think back to Judas – Mat. 26:21-25 – he partook with the others, but his heart was full of betrayal (Lk. 22:3) before, during, and after the Passover.

Decision...

- Under the law of Moses a time to teach children! – Exo. 12:26-27.
- Christ is our Passover (1 Cor. 5:7) – the Lord's Supper is an opportune time to teach our children!
- We worship in spirit and in truth when we share in the Lord's Supper on the first day of every week.
- A privilege of citizenship in His kingdom, an honor bestowed upon His disciples, and a proclamation of His death, resurrection, and second coming.