

# 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

2-22-12

## A Meal to Remember!

### I. Slide#1 Announce:

A. Pray for Wayne & Larry to P.I. - 5 Loaves.

### II. Intro:

- A. **Problem this week?** - The Corinthian church was taking the Lords Supper in a **disorderly & disrespectful** manner.
1. They saw the occasion as an opportunity for gluttony & drunkenness, **rather** than a reverent remembrance of the Lord, **& enjoying His goodness!** *Which invited God's discipline!*
  2. **Do we do communion different then the church you grew up in? What is different? What do you miss, or wish we did, or wish we didn't do? Is there anything that we're doing that might have brought God displeasure? Have you ever eaten of the Lord's supper in an unworthy manner? Ever been disrespectful toward communion?**
- B. **Title:** *A Meal to Remember!*
- C. **Outline:** **Careless Communion!** (17-22); **Careful Communion!** (23-34).

### III. Slide#2 CARELESS COMMUNION! (17-22)

- A. (17) **I do not praise you** – Paul did in vs.2, but can't here!
- B. **Come together** – 5 x's. (17,18,20,33,34)
1. Oh, so I guess you **are** to **come together** as a local church body! (Baam)
- C. **They enjoyed** “Love Feasts” **or** “Agape Feasts”.
1. Actually, they would have a meal 1st, **then** communion.
    - a) This is what Jesus did when He turned a **regular meal into** a **communion meal** with the Emmaus road disciples. *“Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.”*
  2. **At home do you ever combine communion w/your supper?**
    - a) Let's bring back the **Love Feasts!**
  3. **Home studies, when was the last time you had communion for your guests?**
- D. Paul was calling for them to *honor one another* in the church.
1. Communion is a **personal** time, **yet** shouldn't become so **individual** that it becomes selfish.
- E. Instead of **coming together** they were **coming apart!**
1. **Divisions** (18) **& factions** (19)
  2. The Lords supper speaks of the **unity** that a family has, sitting at their table [**comm-union**]

F. **Slide#3 Supper** – This was the **main meal** of the day. [The Greeks had 3 meals in the day]

1. ακριτισμα [akritisma /akri-tis-ma] - **Breakfast**, bread dipped in wine.
2. ἀριστάω [aristao /ar-is-tah-o] **Picnic snack** on the go.
3. δειπνέω [deipneo /dipe-neh-o] (used here) - **Evening meal**, people lingered & sat long & talked over it! [Like in Rev.3:20 *Behold I stand...I will Dine with him...*]
  - a) So people sat down & with no sense of hurry. **And** sat down not only to satisfy hunger, **but** lingered long together! (leisurely dining)

#### IV. **Slide#4 CAREFUL COMMUNION! (23-26)**

- A. (msg) Let me go over with you again exactly what goes on in the Lord's Supper and why it is so centrally important.
- B. **Bread & wine** were **2 common items** that were used at practically every meal, but Jesus gave them a wonderful new meaning.
  1. **New meaning** so that *from now on* they would serve as **memorials** of His death!
  2. Every detail of the **Passover** pointed to that great day of Israel's deliverance from Egypt.
    - a) **Now**, Jesus will redirect the details **to Himself & to His deliverance** of the world from **sin**.
- C. **Slide#5 A PRIVILEGE!** (23) It's **The Lords Table!**
- D. 10:21 **You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons.**
  1. It is not the table of *an assembly, a church, or a denomination*.
- E. Christ is the **host &** we are invited to **His table**.
  1. Like **Mephibosheth**, who was lame in his feet & deserving of death, **so we** are spiritually lame & deserving of death. **Yet** King David invited him to **eat bread at my table always &** David said, **he shall eat at my table like one of the king's sons** (2Sam9)
- F. **Slide#6 A MEMBER!** (24) **For you.**
- G. **Come together as a church** (18)
  1. It is specifically for **the family!**
- H. **Slide#7 A COMMAND!** (24,25) **Do this.**
- I. **New covenant?**
  1. **Old covenant**(Sinai) was ratified w/the **blood of animals** sacrifices.
  2. **New covenant** was ratified by **His blood**.
  3. This blood did what the animal's **couldn't...take away** sin & **not just cover over it!**

J. **Slide#8** There were/are **4 cups** at the Passover/Seder Feast:

1. The 4 Cups symbolize the 4 distinct *redemptions* promised by God to the Hebrews as told in Ex.6:6-7 (1) **I will take you out of Egypt** (2) **I will deliver you from Egyptian slavery** (3) **I will redeem you with a demonstration of my power** (4) **I will acquire you as a nation**. [Jesus was celebrating the Passover when He instituted the Last Supper]
2. The cup of **Kiddush** (sanctification/separation) [i.e. separation from all other common meals]
3. The cup of **Haggadah** (explaining/proclaiming) [drink before meal]
4. The cup of **Thanksgiving** (a prayer is said, “Blessed are you, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe, who has created the fruit of the vine.”) [drink after meal]
5. The **4th cup** – (drink after the conclusion of singing the *Hallel*) [Lk.22:18 **I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes**]

K. **Slide#9 A MEMORIAL!** (24,25) **Remembrance**.

L. It is **not** the real body & blood, **for** Jesus was in a human body when He took the bread & gave it as a symbol of His body.

1. The Lord's table is not a **magical** table **or** a **superstitious** table, **but** a **testimonial** table! [It's not a “magical” experience **but** a “spiritual” one!]

M. [Let's talk about the 3 main communion views in the church]

1. **Slide#10 Transubstantiation** (trans=across/change/transfer) **A change of essence**.
  - a) Held by the Roman Catholic church. (via philosophy of *Aristotle*)
    - (1) Christ's presence **replaced** the presence of bread/wine.
  - b) **Substance** – the deepest essence of something.
  - c) **Accidents** – outwardly perceivable qualities. (what we see, feel, smell, taste)
    - (1) Thus the idea is that the **substance** changes w/o the **accidents** changing. [still looks/smells/taste the same]
  - d) **Problem** – Body & blood belong to the humanity of Jesus, **not** to His deity.
    - (1) Since the Mass is celebrated in diff parts of the world at the same time, **how can the human nature of Jesus (body & blood) be at more than 1 place at a time?**
    - (2) **Plus**, problem with John 6 misinterpretation (i.e. Last Supper not instituted yet)
2. **Slide#11 Consubstantiation** – (con=with)
  - a) Held by the Lutherans.
  - b) Christ's presence was **added** to the bread/wine.
    - (1) “Somehow he is present **in, under, & through** it.”
3. **Slide#12,13 Memorial View** – (Do this in remembrance of me)

## 4. Held by Zwingli(&amp; us) - Memorial View.

a) **Remembrance** = memorial. *“To call back again into memory a vivid experience”* (TDNT).

b) It is a **Necessary Memorial!** – so we wouldn’t forget Him!

(1) **Forget Him? ...HOW?** – **Well**, They went from the upper room to the garden, where they forgot him & fled from Him, just a little while after He said this.

(2) Kind of like **we forget Him** each & every time **we sin!**

(a) **Yet**, He’ll never forget you, *child of God!* – He has your photo in His wallet! – He has your picture on his refrigerator! – He has your portrait on his mantle! - And, you are tattooed on His hands (Is.49:16)

5. Jesus shattered the Passover tradition with the words, **Take, eat; this is My body!**

a) Yes, this **Bread** represented *the life of Christ!*

(1) He was given **that body** in **Bethlehem** (house of bread).

(2) In His life, he said, *I am the bread of life!* (a sinless life He led in **that body**)

(3) He bore our sins, in **that body**.

(4) He triumphed from the grave bringing **that body** back to life.

(5) He now lives in **that glorified body** at the right hand of the Father. - **Take, eat; this is My body!**

N. **Do this, & this do** – **Not:** quote this, think this, feel this; **but** do this!

1. Look, touch, & taste His death **so** we’ll **really** remember!

2. Here Jesus pulls in more of our **senses** so we’d retain it better!

a) *“My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood & righteousness; I would not trust the sweetest frame, but only lean on Jesus name!”*

O. **A 3-FOLD DIRECTION TO LOOK!**

P. **Slide#14 A BACKWARD LOOK!** (26a) **You proclaim the Lord’s death.**

Q. It serves as a **backward look** to the **cross** (26a) **Proclaim the Lord’s death.**

1. **Proclamation = To preach!** - Making a solemn announcement by word of mouth.

R. **Slide#15 A INWARD LOOK!** (28) **Examine himself.**

S. It serves as an **inward look** to the **conscience** (28) **Examine himself.**

T. A self-examination - Examine yourself **& not** one another!

1. Have you ever been guilty of saying, **“How can they be taking communion?”**

U. **Leave no stone unturned!**

1. Though we do not come to the table **perfectly**, we do need to come **honestly!**

V. **And so let him eat** – God doesn’t erect a **barrier** around the Lord’s table to keep us from it, **but** a **warning** that would drive us to the Lord in **confession**, in **repentance**, & a **melted heart**.

W. The devil would love to keep you from this table!

1. **Examine yourself** & do not stay away, **but come, eat, & drink** when you do come!
- X. **Slide#16 A FORWARD LOOK!** (26b) **Till He comes.**
- Y. It serves as a **forward look** to the **crowns** (26b) **Till He comes.**
- Z. **Till** – it is a **temporary** table!(no communion supper in heaven) **So...**
  1. It serves as a **backward look** to the **cross.**
  2. It serves as an **inward look** to the **conscience.**
  3. It serves as a **forward look** to the **crowns.**

AA. **Slide#17 A WARNING!** (27) **Will be guilty.**

BB. **Unworthy** – Paul never tells us we must be “**worthy**” to eat at the Lord’s table (cuz no one would be able to partake).

1. Though we are **unworthy**, we can, partake in a **worthy manner...How?**  
**[1]** Have a **Mind** that understands the supper **[2]** Have a **Soul** free from sin **[3]** Have a **Heart** filled w/love for Christ & his people **[4]** Have a **Will** in obedience to His Word!

CC. **Slide#18 A CHASTISEMENT!** (29-32) **Chastened by the Lord.**

1. **Note: many** (30) – Here is a **sickness** because of sin...even **death** for some! – This was the Divine chastening for **not** doing **self-judgment** (31).
2. The principles pretty clear, **if we don’t judge ourselves, God will have to judge for us.**
3. **Ok, really, that’s pretty serious...weak, sick, or DEAD!**
  - a) Dan & I were talking, **God left us with only 1 reoccurring sacrament/Baptism** is needed only once
4. **Today’s judgement?** Maybe our flippancy towards communion. Maybe its sterility.
  - a) **I would love to start a new tradition, maybe start out quarterly. If the Lords Supper always came after a sit down leisurely meal then...**How about we meet in the gym, tables set up, & have a huge pot luck, just sit & talk & fellowship, & then at the end, we take bread from off the table, & a cup, & enjoy this kind of communion together.

DD. **Slide#19 A REMINDER!** (33,34) **Wait for one another...eat at home.**

1. **Story** – 1st communion I did in Haiti. I broke a loaf of bread in half & passed the 2. The 1st guy that it was passed to took **the whole thing!**

EE. Paul speaks to Christian love that puts others ahead of ourselves.

- V. **Slide#20** When **Leonardo da Vinci** was 43 years old, the Duke **Ludovico of Milan** asked him to paint the dramatic scene of Jesus’ last supper with his disciples: **Working slowly and giving meticulous care to details, he spent 3 years** on the assignment. He grouped the disciples into **threes, two groups** on either side of the central figure of Christ. Christ’s arms are outstretched. In his right hand, He holds a cup, painted beautifully with marvelous realism. When the masterpiece was finished, the artist said to a friend, “**Observe it and give me your opinion of it!**” “It’s

wonderful!” exclaimed the friend. “**The cup** is so real I cannot divert my eyes from it!”

Immediately Leonardo took a brush and drew it across the sparkling cup! He exclaimed as he did so: “*Nothing shall detract from the figure of Christ!*” Slide#21,22

A. A **Meal** to Remember...A **Messiah** to Remember!

## VI. Do Communion:

A. Bread -

B. Cup -