

The Lord's Supper

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

- I. Jesus did not ask for us to build some great monument or do some great work or sacrifice to remember Him by.
 - A. If He had you can be sure that people would give and sacrifice to do it.
 - B. But the effect of something like that on our hearts and minds would be contrary to what He wants for us.
 1. We would certainly be proud of any great work that we put our own hand to.
 - C. Jesus simply asked us to sometimes sit down together and remember that last time He sat with his closest disciples and held their hands and looked into their eyes and asked them to remember what He was about to do for them and for the world.
 - D. The focus is not on our responsibility but on his sacrifice.
 - E. The Lord's Supper is an act of worship in which we are to remember the great act of love of the Son of God in suffering and dying for each one of us.
 - F. In a way, Jesus meant for us to remember this every time we eat our meals.
 1. Everything we eat is something whose life was ended so that ours might be sustained, or it is the fruit of a life that was lived.
- II. As with most everything Jesus said, and Paul said, and the other writers of the New Testament said, the ordinance of the Lord's Supper has been distorted and misrepresented and changed into something that Jesus did not intend.
 - A. There is no power involved in observing the Lord's Supper – it is simply an act of worship in which we remember the death of the Lord Jesus for our sins.
 - B. There is nothing to be gained by us or the church other than a softening of our hearts by being reminded of what Jesus did and who He really is.
 - C. It is edifying to the saints of God because Jesus is so misrepresented in this modern idolatry, and observing the Lord's Supper is something that brings the compass back to the right direction.
- III. In observing the Lord's Supper we are remembering the greatest man who ever lived.
 - A. We are remembering the greatest act of love ever known.
 - B. We are remembering the point in time which is the center of the history of mankind and God's creation.
 - C. We are remembering when God kept his promises that were made thousands of years before, and therefore are being reassured that He will keep the promises that remain.

- D. We are being reminded that He will come again, like He said He would : We are to do this "...til He come."
- E. God was always about setting up memorials.
 - 1. In the Old Testament it was something He commanded the children of Israel to do many times.

MEMO'RIAL, n. That which preserves the memory of something; any thing that serves to keep in memory. A monument is a memorial of a deceased person, or of an event. The Lord's supper is a memorial of the death and sufferings of Christ.

- 2. Our feelings grow cold as things get crowded out of our thoughts.
- 3. The memories are still there, but they need to be rekindled once in a while.
- 4. We do this with our old photographs and our keepsakes that are associated with sweet memories we have of dear loved ones.
- 5. The Lord's Supper is do for us concerning the cost of our salvation what those old pictures and keepsakes do when we look at them.
- F. Look at the cup as you drink it and remember that night that Jesus drank it for the last time with his disciples, and how He said it represented his blood that was shed for you.
- G. Look at that bread and remember that He said for you to remember when you eat it that his body was broken for you.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 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: 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. 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.