

Scripture: Luke 22:7-30

Cat. 28.75-81 #1

Singing: 284:1-3 – 92:1, 3, 5 – 120:1-4 – 51:1-3

The Lord's Supper (1)

I. The Message II. The Practice III. The Partaker

I. The Message of the Lord's Supper

A. Jesus speaks through the Lord's Supper symbols: Luke 22:19-20

1. He pictured Himself in bread and wine
2. He pictured Himself as *given for you or shed for you*
3. As He hands to us, He is calls us to *eat/drink in remembrance of Me*
 - a. remember what I did for you in the past
 - b. remember what I will do for you

B. Jesus' main purpose in the Holy Supper is to assure of Gospel promises

1. All who believe in Him
 - a. have the pardon of sin: John 3:16 (Q. 75, 76, 80)
 - b. about the truth of the possession of eternal life: John 3:15 (Q 76)
2. Eating and drinking *symbolizes* what happens when we trust Jesus
 - a. John 6:53-56
3. As food enables us to work, so faith empowers our soul: Rom. 15:13

C. Sum: The Lord's Supper is not to *work up feelings* but to *strengthen faith*

II. The practice of the Lord's Table

A. There will be no benefit of this means of grace if not used

1. Christ has "commanded me and all believers to eat/drink" (Q. 75)
 - a. Matt 26:26-28 - Num. 9:13
2. Omitting to use it because you struggle with assurance like omitting to eat because you feel sick and weak (see Q. 75, 79)
3. For any growth and strengthening of faith, God call His people to use all His means of grace (compare Conf. art. 35)

B. The practice requires preparation

1. Nobody should attend the Lord's Supper *unprepared*

a. Exodus 19:10-13; 1 Sam. 26:4-5; 2 Chron. 30:3; 18-19

b. 1 Cor. 11:17-34 (27-29) and Hebrews 12:28-29

!

2. What does preparation consist of?

a. to be busy like David before God: Ps. 19:13-14; 139:23-24

b. to do what God calls you to do: Isaiah 55:7; 1 John 1:9

c. to seek to stir the heart by meditating on Jesus' glory: Song 1:1-3

d. to pray for God's blessing on Supper: Ps. 43:3-4; 84:2; Prov. 13:4

Reflection: How do I know that the Sacrament strengthened my faith?

A. It when our faith in Christ's promises is strengthened

B. Once faith is strengthened, it will reflect itself in

1. a sense of love and thankfulness for all Jesus is for us (Ps. 116:12)

2. a greater desire to glorify Him in leaving all sin (Phil. 3:14; Ps. 119)

3. more ability to be cheerful while suffering (1 Cor. 12:10; Rom. 8:28)

4. a stronger comfort in life and death (Rom. 8:37-39)

5. increased hunger to enter the Father's mansions (2 Peter 3:13-14)