

Morning Sermon February 26, 2015

"Our Lord's Supper" Luke 22:13-23

I. *We must understand Our Lord's Supper in light of the Old Covenant Institution of the Passover:*

1. *Our Lord initiates His Supper during the Passover – ... they prepared the Passover. (Luke 22:13 NKJ)*

Then He said to them, "With *fervent* desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; (Luke 22:15 NKJ)

2. *However, we should not think of the Passover as "BEFORE" our Lord's Death, it may have been before it in time, but not in importance or in God's mind or plan – ... in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. (Revelation 13:8 NKJ)*

3. *The Passover points forward to Our Lord's death on the cross. The lambs' blood on the doorposts, protecting God's people from the destroying Angel of Death foreshadowed Christ's blood which was shed on the cross, saving from wrath due sin- ... For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. (1 Corinthians 5:7 NKJ)*

A. *As the children of Israel were slaves in Egypt – So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage-- in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor. (Exodus 1:13-14 NKJ)*

B. *So we are all slaves of sin – ... "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (John 8:34 NKJ)*

C. *As God's mighty arm brought His people out of Egypt, so by Christ, His mighty Arm, He delivers us from sin by the Arm Who is Christ –*

"Therefore say to the children of Israel: `I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. (Exodus 6:6 NKJ)

Fear and dread will fall on them; By the greatness of Your arm They will be as still as a stone, Till Your people pass over, O LORD, Till the people pass over Whom You have purchased. (Exodus 15:16 NKJ)

Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, And as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, *There is* no beauty that we should desire Him.³ He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:1-6 NKJ)

4. *The Lord's Supper memorializes Christ and His death on the cross –*

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (Luke 22:19 NKJ)

In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." (1 Corinthians 11:25 NKJ)

"We should notice, first, in these verses that the principal object of the Lord's Supper was to remind Christians of Christ's death for sinners. In appointing the Lord's Supper, Jesus distinctly tells his disciples that they were to do what they did "**in remembrance**" of him (verse 19). The Lord's Supper is not a sacrifice; it is a commemorative ordinance." J.C. Ryle

II. *We must understand Our Lord's Supper in light of its important elements:*

1. *Bread – symbolizing Christ's body, broken for us –*

And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (Luke 22:19 NKJ)

2. *Wine – symbolizing Christ's blood, shed for us –*

Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. (Luke 22:20 NKJ)

3. *Bread – a staple, showing the necessity of feeding upon Christ –*
"For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. (John 6:55 NKJ)

4. *Wine – a luxury, demonstrating the abundant life provided by Christ – wine that makes glad the heart of man, ...*(Psalm 104:15 NKJ)

5. *These elements are simple, not magic, the power is in what they point to for us*

III. *We must understand Our Lord's Supper in light of our own great needs*

1. *Sin is the great problem of all mankind –*

As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹ There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. (Romans 3:10-11 NKJ)

2. *The Israelite's bondage in Egypt pictures our own great bondage to sin –*

Jesus answered them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. (John 8:34 NKJ)

3. *Each of us, unless we have trusted in Christ, are dead in trespasses and sins, we are due God's wrath and curse –*
And you *He made alive*, who were dead in trespasses and sins, ² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (Ephesians 2:1-3 NKJ)

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." (Galatians 3:10 NKJ)

4. *Christ, as the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world, is a spiritual and moral lightning rod for those who trust Him, absorbing the wrath and penalty we deserved –*

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! (John 1:29 NKJ) Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1 NKJ)

5. *The Lord's Supper is our Lord's appointed way for us to remember and celebrate what He has accomplished for us -*

IV. *How should we receive Our Lord's Supper?*

1. *With a spirit of joy and thanksgiving; the Lord's Supper is first and foremost a celebration of what our Lord has done for us –*

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (Matthew 26:30 NKJ)

2. *With a spirit of self-search and confession of sin, asking our Lord to forgive our sins –*

But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. (1 Corinthians 11:28 NKJ) (see also Matthew 26:22 NKJ)

3. *With a spirit of Love and recommitment; if God so loved us, how much should we love Him in return?*

We love Him because He first loved us. (1 John 4:19 NKJ)

2. *Understanding the role of Judas Iscariot*

"But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. ²² "And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" ²³ Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. (Luke 22:21-23 NKJ)

1. *He would sit at the table - :21*

2. *He would betray Jesus with a kiss –Luke 22:47-48*

And while He was still speaking, behold, a multitude; and he who was called Judas, one of the twelve, went before them and drew near to Jesus to kiss Him. ⁴⁸ But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?" (Luke 22:47-48 NKJ)

3. *Beware of doing the same, meaning the expressions of love to God without the reality of that love in the heart!*

4. *It would be better and safer, for now, simply to observe (and not take) the Lord's Supper than to partake of it with the wrong heart -1*

Corinthians 11:27-30

Arnold Brevick