

“COMMUNION WITH OUR LORD: THE SHARED LIFE”

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-34

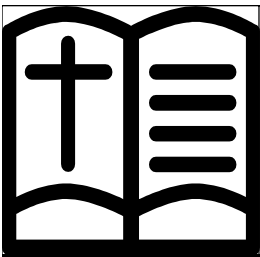
I. THE MEANING OF THE LORD’S TABLE

A. *It was given by the Lord to be practiced by His chosen to remember Him - **memorial***

1. *Of who He is - the God man, living perfectly in our place; purity, office, mission*
2. *Of the events of that night - betrayal, trial*
3. *Of His suffering - physical, mental and spiritual*
4. *Of His resurrection - new creation; sovereign*

B. *Sharing in the Lord’s **body** - food from the earth*

1. *Our bodies are taken from the earth and will return to the earth in the old order - bread is taken from the earth*
2. *By taking the bread we are confessing He is a man of the first world that has redeemed it*
 - a. *The order of the old world was life comes from death - the wages of sin is death*
 - b. *His death makes him a participant in the old order and the finisher of it*
 - c. *His death as an innocent, perfect man puts an end to sin/death through sacrifice*
3. *The bread, without yeast, will still decay and is easily broken - sign of his human mortality*
4. *Through Him sharing His life, He shared our life and mortality - became one of us*
5. *We remember our own fragility when we take the bread; the end of the old order to us*



6. *By taking the bread we are remembering our own death through Him to the old world*
- C. *Sharing in the cup of His **blood** - the life of the flesh*
1. *This is the sharing of His life since the life of His flesh is in His blood*
 2. *This is the essence of the exchanged life - Our sin placed on Him to die for it; His righteousness imputed to us that we might be the righteousness of God in Him*
 3. *By His blood He has brought all human beings under one banner - Himself*
 4. *By His blood He has forgiven our trespasses against God*
 5. *By His blood He has reconciled all things to Himself on earth and in heaven; He has settled all the complaints against God, man and the sons of God*
 6. *His blood is the substance and foundation for the new covenant; it is its life*
 7. *By taking the cup you are acknowledging your citizenship in the new world coming; eternal life now and then*
- D. *By participating in the bread and the cup we are acknowledging the meaning of His death and resurrection until He comes again.*
- E. *Therefore, it is a serious thing to share in this practice as it is a serious thing to share in His life*
- F. *One needs to examine himself before he takes, while he takes and after he has taken.*