

The Meaning of the Lord's Supper

www.aubeacon.com

Introduction: One of the differences between the religions of men and true service to God is that God wants our hearts and minds and not just our outward actions.

- A. God has always rejected service that does not involve understanding and commitment.
 - 1. God reasoned with Israel in Malachi's day. (**Mal 1:8-10**)
 - 2. Jesus pointed out the vanity of repeating words without meaning. (**Matt 6:7-8**)
- B. God has placed proper worship as a high priority in the development of His people. (**John 4:23-24**)
 - 1. When you see that "God is seeking such", then it is very important.
 - 2. Those who want to be pleasing to God will pay attention.
 - 3. Please do not be like the pagans. (**Acts 19:32**)
- C. What does the Lord's Supper signify to Christians?
 - 1. It is possible to physically partake of the physical elements but in reality not to observe the Lord's Supper. (**1 Cor 11:20-22**)
 - 2. Consider the great significance of this act of worship.

I. The Lord's Supper was Delivered by Jesus Himself.

- A. The Lord carefully delivered this for all disciples to follow.
 - 1. Jesus had a great desire to observe this with His disciples. (**Luke 22:14-16**) Is it important to us?
 - 2. Is Jesus our Lord? (**Luke 6:46**)
- B. Jesus wanted us to remember Him. (**Matt 26:26-28**)
 - 1. What are we to remember? Why is this important to us? (**2 Peter 1:9; 1 John 4:19**)
 - 2. Jesus delivered it the "same night" in which He was betrayed. (**1 Cor 11:23**)
 - 3. In the series of events that follow the mind would act like a camera. These events will be remembered with great emphasis. What do you remember?
 - 4. This supper is declared to be a memorial. (**1 Cor 11:25**)

II. The Lord's Supper is the Christian's Passover.

- A. Paul likened the death of Christ to the Passover. (**1 Cor 5:6-8**)
 - 1. This is **not** the Jewish Passover.
 - 2. However it is the reality that the Passover symbolized.
 - 3. While we do not observe the physical regulations to prepare for it, our

hearts need to be right with God.

- B. We need to understand that this act made it possible for us “who once *were* not a **people** but *are* now the **people** of God”. (1 Peter 2:10)

III. The Lord’s Supper is a Communion of the people of God.

- A. We must always remember what made us Christians. (1 Cor 10:16-17)
 - 1. We are a purchased people. We must never forget. (1 Cor 6:19-20)
 - 2. Why do we remember the blood? the body?
 - 3. Left to our own we will become selfish and self-centered.
The message of the cross will not allow that.
- B. We are showing that Christ is our King and Master.
 - 1. We are in the kingdom of God. (Matt 26:29; Luke 22:16)
 - 2. The cup shows our submission to the new covenant. (1 Cor 11:25)
- C. Because of this communion with the sacrifice of Christ we become a distinctive people. (1 Cor 10:18-22)
 - 1. God’s people do not complain about a “restrictive lifestyle”.
 - 2. Because of His death we are no longer our own!
 - 3. This will eliminate those who refuse to be a part of a local church and “worship” at home.

IV. The Lord’s Supper is a Proclamation of the Second Coming of Christ

- A. This implies a conviction in the judgment of God. (1 Cor 11:26)
 - 1. What does the second coming mean? (2 Peter 3:9-10)
 - 2. Are you ready for the judgment?
- B. The wrath of God is acknowledged and respected.
 - 1. As a result we observe this with knowledge. (1 Cor 11:27-30)
 - 2. We will observe with regularity. (Acts 2:42; 20:7)
 - 3. Ex. A memorial service for your son.
- C. When we know God we can become like Him. (2 Peter 1:3-4)

Conclusion: What does the death of Christ mean to you?

- A. What is a power to one is foolishness to another. (1 Cor 1:18)
- B. The Lord’s Supper is a sacred privilege. Where do you stand?