



From Where I Sit . . .

“The Lord’s Supper In Worship”

There are so many practices in New Testament Christianity that trigger memory and raise questions within children’s minds. So many little children want to peer over into the baptistry to see what’s inside. They are naturally curious to know “What?” “When?” “Why?” What a great opportunity for parents to tell them of God’s saving love, and Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection which becomes our own (**Romans 6:3-6**).

The Lord instituted the Lord’s Supper as both a communion or fellowship with him in honoring His body and His blood, and as a means of “showing forth His death until He comes.” This memorial feast is so similar to Israel’s stones of reminder set up after crossing the Jordan River and recorded in Joshua 4:6-7. It triggers the same question, “**What does this mean to you?**” that Israelite children were to ask when they saw the stones. Read carefully Paul’s description of this Supper and it’s meaning for us:

1 Corinthians 11:23 - 26 (NKJV) ²³*For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; ²⁴and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” ²⁵In 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.” ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.*

1 Corinthians 10:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶*The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?*

The word translated “communion” in our English Bible is taken from a Greek word (*koinonia*) which simply means “fellowship,” “partnership,” or “mutual sharing.” The Lord’s Supper is the means by which I can focus on the fact that I share in and reap the benefit of a dying Savior on the cross. That body was broken for me. He and I have a partnership in that death. That blood was freely poured out for my redemption. When I commune with the Savior in this death, I’m to remember that He bore my sins in His body on the tree (**see Isaiah 53:4-5**). The Lord’s Supper serves as a memorial that calls our attention back to that old rugged cross, and to the significance of what happened there until He comes again. The Supper keeps the memory of Jesus and what He did for me alive in my heart.

Furthermore, The Lord’s Supper is a proclamation (**1 Corinthians 11:26**). Not only do we share with Him in His death by partaking, but we also proclaim that death until He comes. Every time the emblems are passed, we are telling our children, our brethren, and the world around us that Jesus is real; He came; He suffered; He died; He arose; He ascended; He redeems us by His blood; and He is coming again. **1 Corinthians 11:26** ²⁶*For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.* What a tremendous memorial emblem the Lord has selected to convey all these wonderful truths.

How crucial it is to the preservation of Christianity that we remain anxious to rehearse the meaning of God’s memorials. May we learn from Israel’s mistakes that to take such memorials for granted and fail to continue teaching their significance is to sign the death warrant for our very own faith as well as the faith of succeeding generations.

. . . . Terry Broome