

## **COMMUNION/THE LORD'S SUPPER**

1. A time when fellow believers come together to remember the effects of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for them by receiving and eating the elements Jesus used in the Lord's Supper (also known as the "Last Supper"). The bread symbolizes Jesus' body, broken for us on the cross, while the wine (or juice) represents Jesus' blood, shed on the cross for our sins (see [1 Cor. 10:16-17](#)).

Note: The taking or receiving of the Lord's Supper is not restricted to one particular time or day. Some take it every day, some take it once a month. We must understand the clarity concerning the purpose of taking The Lord's Supper. As said in the above paragraph:

"to remember the effects of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for them by receiving and eating the elements Jesus used in the Lord's Supper"

It is so very important the we do not get caught up in the conversations of people trying to demand that we take it more than once or only once. The importance is that we do participate in taking of the Lords Supper. Read below the words of Christ Himself.

### ***Matthew 26:26-29 (KJV)***

<sup>26</sup> And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

<sup>27</sup> And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

<sup>28</sup> For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

<sup>29</sup> But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

### ***Mark 14:22-25 (KJV)***

<sup>22</sup> And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

<sup>23</sup> And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it.

<sup>24</sup> And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

<sup>25</sup> Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

### ***Luke 22:14-20 (KJV)***

<sup>14</sup> And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.

<sup>15</sup> And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:

<sup>16</sup> For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

<sup>17</sup> And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves:

<sup>18</sup> For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.

<sup>19</sup> And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

<sup>20</sup> Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

### **1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (KJV)**

<sup>23</sup> For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

<sup>24</sup> And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

<sup>25</sup> After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

<sup>26</sup> For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Note that in none of the above text did Jesus himself mention a specific time of partaking in The Lords Supper. He simply said "as often as you do this" So it is not wrong to take it once a year, once a month, once a week, or once a day. Just remember He died for our sins.

Read the attached pages concerning the Lords Supper:

## Lord's Supper

**The Lord's Supper was given as a permanent ordinance.**

1. It was while "they were eating" the Passover meal that Christ instituted the Lord's Supper. He was replacing the Passover with the Lord's Supper. The Lord's Supper is the new ordinance of God to celebrate His deliverance of man from bondage and slavery
2. In God's eternal plan the sacrificial lamb used in the Passover had always been a picture of Christ, the real Lamb of God who was to be sacrificed for man. By instituting the Lord's Supper during the Passover meal, Christ was not only tying His Supper to the Passover, He was proclaiming Himself to be the Lamb of God who was to be slain for the sins of men ([Matthew 26:27-28](#); cp. [1 Cor. 5:7](#); [Rev. 13:8](#)).
3. Christ instituted the Lord's Supper before He died, not after His resurrection. This is very significant. It means that His death was voluntary. He had not yet died; He did not have to die. He could have slipped out of town and escaped, but He chose to willingly lay down His life for the sins of men. Therefore, the Lord's Supper is the great celebration of *the voluntary sacrifice* of God's Son for man. The broken bread and poured wine picture the *willingness* of God's Son to lay down His life for man's sins.

Christ instituted the Lord's Supper by doing five things.

1. Christ took the bread, His body, and He gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples ([Matthew 26:26](#)).
  - a. By taking the bread into His hands, Christ was indicating that His death was a voluntary act. His destiny was in His hands.

**"As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep" ([John 10:15](#)).**

**"Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father" ([John 10:17-18](#)).**

- b. By giving thanks, Christ was offering praise for deliverance and for a life full of provision, a provision that came from God Himself.
- c. By breaking the bread, Christ was saying that His body was to be broken and sacrificed as a victim for man's deliverance ([Isaiah 53:5](#)). This act was so significant that the early church sometimes called the Lord's Supper simply "the breaking of bread" ([Acts 2:42](#), [46](#); [1 Cor. 10:16](#)). Under the Old Testament the broken bread pictured the sufferings of

the Israelites. Now, under the New Testament, the bread is to picture the broken body of Christ ([1 Cor. 11:24](#)).

**"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" ([Isaiah 53:5](#)).**

- d. By giving the bread and saying, "Take, eat, this is my body," Christ was saying that He is to be received into a man's life. And that moment of redemption is to be remembered in this ordinance (see note—[Matthew 26:26](#)).

**"This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" ([John 6:50-51](#)).**

- 2. Christ took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to the disciples ([Matthew 26:27](#)).
  - a. By taking the cup into His own hands, Christ was again teaching that His death was voluntary (cp. [John 10:11, 17-18](#)).
  - b. By giving thanks, Christ was again expressing praise and appreciation for deliverance promised through sacrifice.
  - c. By giving the cup and saying, "Drink ye all of it," Christ was again saying that He must become a part of man's very being if man wished deliverance. Note: the word "gave" (edoken) is in the Greek aorist tense which means that Christ gave the cup *once for all*. He died once and only once, and man partakes of His death once and only once.

**"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin" ([Romans 6:6](#)).**

**"For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God" ([Romans 6:10](#)).**

- 3. Christ instituted a new covenant: forgiveness ([Matthew 26:28](#)). Note the Lord's exact words.
  - a. "This is my blood." His blood was to become the sign and symbol of the new covenant. His blood was to take the place of the sacrificial lamb of the Passover.
  - b. "The new testament." His blood, the sacrifice of His life, established a New Testament, a new covenant between God and man (cp. [Hebrews 9:11-15](#)). Faith in His blood and sacrifice is the way man is to approach God. Before, under the Old Testament, a man

who wanted a right relationship with God approached God through the sacrifice of an animal's blood. The Old Testament believer believed that God accepted him because of the sacrifice of the animal. Now, under the New Testament, the believer believes that God accepts him because of the sacrifice of Christ. This is what Christ said: "This is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins" A man's sins are forgiven and he becomes acceptable to God by believing that Christ's blood was shed for him ([1 John 1:7](#)).

**"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" ([Ephes. 1:7](#)).**

**"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin" ([1 John 1:7](#)).**

**"My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world" ([1 John 2:1-2](#)).**

**"Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is the bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever" ([John 6:54-58](#)).**

c. Now note the words, "Drink ye all of it." A man must receive what Christ has done for him. He must drink, partake, absorb, assimilate Christ's blood into his life. That is, a man must believe and trust the death of Christ to forgive his sins. He must allow Christ's death to become the very nourishment, the innermost part and energy and flow of his life

4. Christ promised to celebrate the Supper with His followers in the future ([Matthew 26:29](#)). This is the glorious promise to all genuine believers: they shall sit down with Christ at the great marriage Feast of the Lamb. It is the promise of perfection and of being a part of the new heavens and earth, of sitting with Christ in the Kingdom of God which is to be established in the future. Note that Christ again predicted His death.

**"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; is so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" ([Romans 8:16-17](#)).**

"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory" ([Col. 3:4](#)).

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" ([2 Cor. 4:17](#)).

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed" ([1 Peter 5:1](#)).

"For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" ([2 Peter 1:11](#)).

5. Christ and His disciples sang a hymn and departed. Christ closed the Lord's Supper with a hymn. In the midst of great sorrow and perplexity, of a heavy and burdening atmosphere, Christ led His people in a hymn. It was probably the Hallel ([Psalm 115-118](#)).

"These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full" ([John 15:11](#)).

"As sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things" ([2 Cor. 6:10](#)).

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice" ([Phil. 4:4](#)).

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" ([Col. 3:16](#)).

**Thought 1.** How do we become sons or children of God and receive eternal life? Christ said (1) by receiving Him ([John 1:12](#)), and (2) by feeding upon Him ([John 6:53-54, 57-58](#)).

**Thought 2.** Under the Old Testament, the blood of Christ was symbolized in the blood of animals. Under the New Testament, the blood of Christ is symbolized in the wine of the Lord's Supper.

**Thought 3.** Note the glorious confidence and surety of Christ. In the face of being murdered, He promised that He would sit down with his followers in the coming kingdom. The death of Christ was not the end; it was the beginning of eternal life for the person who really believed in the death of Christ.